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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

COLLEGE TOPICS

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

Vol. I.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY 8TH, 1898.

No. 12

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One dozen Platinum Finish Cabinet Photographs for \$1. This offer is good only until Feb. 10.

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Toronto

SPORTS.

The annual meeting of the University of Toronto Lawn Tennis Club was held in the gymnasium last week. There was a large representation of the different colleges present. The report of W. A. Sadler, the retiring secretary-treasurer, was read, and showed that the past season had been highly successful. The following officers were elected for the ensuing season:

Hon. President—James Loudon M.A., LL.D.

Patrons—Hon. William Mulock, John Hoskin, Q.C., LL.D., Rev. Elmore Harris, Andrew Rutherford, Adam Carruthers, B.A., and Dr. Needler.

President—W. A. Sadler ('99).
Vice-President—A. N. W. Clark ('00).
Secretary-Treasurer—Chas. E. Treble (Med).

Councillors—W. A. Stratton ('99), J. T. Richardson ('99), E. G. Bogart ('99).

Although there are still two long months before baseball will have its inning, there is already sufficient interest manifested in the approaching season to lead one to believe that the year '98 will see some new strides made in the game at Varsity.

At a meeting held last week it was decided to unite the St. Michael's college and Varsity teams this year and form one team representing the University of Toronto. The following officers were elected for the ensuing season:—Hon. Pres., Hon. W. Mulock M.P.; Pres., F. H. Barron; 2nd Vice, Mr. FitzGerald, of St. Michael's; 1st Vice, J. L. Counsel; Sec.-Treas., J. R. Meredith; Captain, R. Greer; Curator, Aubrey Kilbourne; 4th year representative, E. W. Beatty; 3rd year F. D. McEntee; 1st Percy Brown; 3rd and 4th year Meds, A. W. Tanner; 1st and 2nd year, Stubbs Smith; Victoria, J. R. Parry; St. Michael's, N. Roach; S. P. S., Mr. Gordon; Dentals, R. R. Elliott; Manager, J. W. Hobbs.

"Dick" Greer has found a new 'phenom' for Varsity's baseball team. His name is Murby, and he comes recommended as a twirler with terrific speed and all kinds of curves. Dick will put him at practice in the gym. shortly

The most fashionable barber shop in the west end is Coke's, 464 Spadina.

OLD VARSITY ALL AGLOW

Conversazione Friday Evening an Unprecedented Success

UNDERGRADS WHO WERE THERE

In Every Particular Pronounced the Best Conversat Given at Varsity In Years.

Amongst the University functions of the year nothing can surpass the Conversazione of the Literary Society, held last Friday night in the main building of the University. Whoever controls the meteorological system of this sphere of ours is evidently a close friend of some of the magnates of that society, for even had the choosing of the weather been altogether in the hands of the committee it could hardly have been more propitious. The beauty of the outside world, however, was not the predominating factor in the elements that served to make last Friday night a beauty-night at old Varsity. From the very moment of entering the lucky guest found himself in a very fairland of beauty. The stairs that lead up to the ladies' dressing-room were festooned with parti-colored flags of every design that fancy could conceive. The varying shades of green afforded by palms and plants of all descriptions added that tinge of nature's beauty that form the principal element of all aesthetic decoration: the more artificial devices of bunting and curtains betrayed the hand of the skilled decorator. Passing from the upper corridor the guests found themselves in the large reception-room, that joyed on college days the ladies' dressing room, but for the nonce a very corner out of fairland with its beauty of palm and tapestry. Hence the crowd drifts slowly to the great halls in all their gala array of flags and bunting. The east hall, erst the scene of many a mighty struggle between the weary student and that grim fate they call exams, presented an appearance that belied its fame. Great banners drooped over its lofty walls to hide the varnished beauty of the classic wainscotting; long ribbons of bunting of academic hue circled the whole room and added the touch of loyal sentiment that is so dear to the heart of the sons of old Varsity; graceful plants hid the orchestra from the dancers and completed the scene of beauty. Passing hence one gazed with bated breath over the railing down into the rotunda. Long would he gaze and turn away and gaze again and still again, and still the marvel of the place would lure the vision back again, and silence best became the rapture of the moment. The *blasé* man of the world would pause and look, and boredom would resign for once its steadfast hold upon his features, and a smile as who should say "all is not Vanity" would take its place; the plug, for once bereft of Plato and Descartes, would halt and sigh, and lose himself for one brief moment in the luxury of aesthetics; the laughing maid forgot to laugh and only gazed instead, and lost herself like all the rest; the sober matron looked and spoke not, or spoke only of those things that the world knows not—for Beauty's spirit dwelt upon the scene and lent its golden charms to thrill the souls of all beholders. To describe the bewildering variety of color that painted the scene is far beyond the pen of any ordinary scribe, and so it must be left to the imagination.

The huge west hall was resplendent in all the glory of medieval colors decked along its walls in a Grecian fretwork pattern edged with mauve and topped by a profusion of flags, pennants, burgees, banners, and flies of gorgeous hue and wondrous fashion. The pyramid of palms was especially fine and formed the most distinctive feature of the decorations.

The east and west stairs and lower halls were all filled with curtains at short intervals, and while the most simple in style were none the less a credit to the taste of the decorator.

To describe in detail the myriad cozy corners and niches of the building would weary and not interest, but the advantage taken thereof betrays the deep and intense interest with which the youthful heart surrounded these resorts of the little winged god. And if the tender passion waketh not in many a heart the fault cannot be laid to the charge of those who superintended the most important feature of the conversat.

A feature that seems to be the unique property of Varsity was the abundance of spectacular and scientific displays provided, with charming foresight, for the non-dancing public, and the number of visitors during the evening to those rooms consecrated to such

purpose would even lead one to believe that many a votary of Terpsichore would desert for a space the worship of his favorite for the delight that comes to him who lights upon a wondrous novelty. The School of Science exhibit of drawings and minerals, the Natural Science display of microscopic and museum specimens, and the Psychological exhibit, illustrating the workings of the human brain, constituted the bulk of the material presented to the public.

It was not, however, to the eye alone that the committee in charge catered. The strains of Glionna's and Bayley's orchestras filled the two large halls, and overflowed and floated in far-reaching sweetness down to the most secluded corners of the east and west wings. At the top of the east stair D'Alessandro's orchestra charmed all who wandered far from the mazy dance to the remotest nooks of the east wing.

Not the least appreciated was the excellent style in which Webb served the refreshments during the entire evening.

There was abundance of everything the most fastidious taste could crave, and at no time was there noticed even the slightest crowding.

Not a few undergraduates allowed this golden opportunity to pass, yet nowhere was the undergraduate found in the minority, and the co-eds, free for one evening from the stern realities of their college life, filled the classic halls with their unmolested merriment.

In the throng one caught a glimpse of the following undergraduates:

Misses Andison Crane, Cleary, Cockburn, Dawson, Day, Deroche, Gibbs, Henry, Hurlburt, Hutton Hall, Jackson, Jamieson, Johnston, Kirkwood, Lang Lynde, McDonald, Muirhead, Moore, Macdougall, Manson, Morrison, MacMurchy, L. M. Mason, M. Mason, Parsons, Patterson, Thornton, Thompson, Wegg, Webb, Wright, L. K. White, White.

Messrs. Black, Carson, Cleland, Fitzgerald, Gahan, Gunn, Harper Hill, Hinch, Inkster, Martin, Montgomery, Perkins, Pringle, Robertson, D. Ross, Slaght, Wagar Armour, Armstrong, Benson, J. Biggar, Birmingham, Bogart, Bone, Cleary, Dickson, Broongole, Forbes, Hunter, Kerr, J. R. Meredith, Monds, Mullin, Macdougall, McKay, G. W. Ross, Scarfe, Waldie, Annesley, Beal, Clare, O. R. Fitzgerald, Gillespie, Greig, A. C. Hill, W. R. Meredith, Shenstone, Simms, E. H. Smith, Watson, Hogg, Isabester, Kilbourn, McFarland, Adams, Carson, Wilkin, Blackstock, Lazier, Ingram, Deroche, Allen, Hunt, Morrison, Piper, Carter, White Smith, Perry, Smallpiece, B. C. Bell, C. C. Bell, Parsons, Webb, Young, H. Brethour, Montzambert, Carder, V. McWilliams, Walker, A. J. Mackenzie, J. G. Merrick, R. L. McKinnon, R. F. McWilliams.

It would be quite impossible to suggest even one particular in which the arrangements might have been more complete, and consequently the following committee must be highly complimented for having arranged the finest Conversat which has been given since any of the present undergraduates have been at Varsity: President, MacGregor Young, B.A., LL.B.; Treasurer, C. M. Carson; Invitation, H. P. Hill; Decoration, N. E. Hinch; Programme, G. H. Black; Reception, F. A. Cleland; Building, W. G. Fitzgerald; Refreshments, R. J. M. Perkins; Heating and Lighting, J. G. Inkster; Natural Science, A. H. Montgomery; School of Practical Science, F. C. Smallpiece; Psychological, G. F. Pringle; Secretary of Committee, W. F. Mackay.

The delegates from other colleges were: H. Sissons, Osgoode; C. Howard, McGill; Monroe, Queen's; Cassells, Trinity; Carter, School of Science; R. R. Elliott, Dentals; W. E. Slaght, Victoria.

M. Arthur Shaver, of Victoria University, leaves in a few days for an extended trip to the Holy Land, Egypt, Italy, France, Switzerland and England. He expects to be absent about four months. The best wishes of all Vic men go with him.

H. N. Shaw will appear in "Richelieu" and "Romeo and Juliet" at the Grand Monday and Tuesday evenings of next week.

Toronto Medical School's hockeyists will play a match with the Trinity Meds, probably on Friday night of this week, when the keen rivalry shown on the Diamond and Association football field will be continued.

The following is the programme of the Mathematical and Physical Society meeting Friday afternoon of this week: 1. Medieval Mathematics, Mr. Merritt, '98. 2. Refrigerating Machinery, J. W. McBean, '00. 3. The Mathematical Training which should characterize a Liberal Education, Mr. Hedley, '00. 4. Physical Experiments, Mr. Carson, '98, and Mr. Bone, '99.