

ESPRIT DE CORPS.

There is one phase of academical education in this province to which the advocates and supporters of the non-denominational system seem to attach far too little importance, and which, as it concerns the students of University College no less than the graduates of the University of Toronto, may properly be discussed in the WHITE AND BLUE.

Toronto University is the only non-denominational university in the province, and University College is the only non-denominational college, while there are no fewer than five denominational institutions included with collegiate as well as university functions. These latter, it must be borne in mind, are not in a state of mere passive existence. Those placed in charge of them are active and energetic in their appeals to the sympathy and liberality of their respective churches, and the people who own them and take a creditable pride in them have responded to these appeals with the most praiseworthy liberality. Large endowment funds are in process of collection for Victoria and Queens, and although Trinity, Albert, and the Western University are not yet in so satisfactory a position, there is little doubt that their hold upon their supporters is equally as strong.

I do not see, in all this denominational activity, any cause for regret from a non-sectarian university point of view. On the contrary, I rejoice at the success of all such appeals, hoping only that the time will yet come when some basis of co-operation between all our colleges will be found. But, under existing circumstances, there is no use of shutting our eyes to the fact that denominational aggressiveness is a source of danger to the University of Toronto and University College. As the result of each appeal to denominational liberality, the interest in the denominational system is strengthened, while, on the other hand, because nothing is done to popularize the Provincial institutions, or keep them before the public eye, and win for them a growing share of the public sympathy, they are liable to lose ground relatively in public favor.

I have no fear of an early attempt on the part of any of the denominations to secure a share of the endowment fund of the University of Toronto and University College, for the very excellent reason that that endowment is no longer sufficient for the wants of these institutions themselves. But when additional provision for non-sectarian higher education is wanted—as wanted it will be before long—where is it to come from? Is an appeal to the Legislature likely to prove successful when the Legislative Assembly is made up of representatives of a people the great majority of whom are active in their sympathy with and support of their own denominational college? And if no assistance is forthcoming, what will, in the not far-distant future, become of our boasted pre-eminence in point of educational standard? The day may even come when the majority of the people, seeing the work of higher education done in a way to suit them in institutions of their own, may be prepared to affirm that a State-endowed college is an expensive luxury.

Should that time come, where is the defence of the non-sectarian system to come from? Who is doing

anything just now to popularize either the University of the College. Both the University Senate and College Council jog along as if there were no rocks ahead to keep a look-out for, and no rough places to be made smooth for the educational machine. The graduates take so little interest in matters connected with their Alma Mater that meeting after meeting of Convocation fails for want of a quorum. The only activity manifested at all is displayed by the students of the College, and their energies seem to be so exhausted by their undergraduate course that they become hum-drum graduates like the rest of us. While the universities and colleges have successful alumni associations and academical gala days, we cannot get up a successful reunion at any time or for any purpose.

I do not wish to hold any person or class responsible for this state of affairs. I have simply referred briefly to some matters which all can see for themselves; which we all admit in conference with each other, and which we all deplore, but apparently never think of remedying. I do so not to discourage but to warn. I earnestly hope, but I certainly do not expect, that the institutions we are so justly proud of will not suffer from the deplorable apathy of their own alumni.

WM. HOUSTON.

SATISFACTORY PROGRESS.

The increase in the number of undergraduates of the University of Toronto, must be a source of gratification to those immediately connected with it, and to the people of Ontario, whose institution it is. In 1869, the undergraduates in Arts numbered 268; in 1875, 310; in 1878, 460. Allowance, however, must be made for about 110 men who have either dropped their course, or gone to some other University to complete it; leaving about 350 undergraduates in 1878. After making a deduction of 40 for those who graduated in last June, and an addition of 146 for those who matriculated in June and September of this year, the total number of undergraduates now proceeding to the degree of Bachelor of Arts will be found to be 456 or, in round numbers, four hundred and fifty. In the faculties of Law and Medicine, the figures are almost as satisfactory.

The statistics of University College exhibit the same favourable progress. The freshmen presented at Convocation during the past eight years numbered:

1871, 41.	1874, 36.	1877, 71.
1872, 29.	1875, 47.	1878, 78.
1873, 28.	1876, 46.	

and yesterday 102 were presented for 1879. This shows that of the 146 who matriculated at the University examination in Arts this year, 102 have already registered at the College, and there is a prospect of at least fifteen or twenty more doing so. So far the total number of matriculated students registered for this year is 286, and it is not overstating the case to say, that at least a number sufficient to increase this to 350 have neglected to hand in their names, or have not yet arrived. Besides there must be at least 40 non-matriculated students attending lectures.

To sum up, these figures show that there are 450 *bona fide* undergraduates now proceeding to the degree of Bachelor of Arts in the University of Toronto; that there are 350 of these 450 attending lectures at University College, and that this number of 350 is increased to about 400 when the non-matriculated are added.

GRADUATES IN THE LEGISLATURE.

At the general election in June for the Ontario Assembly the following graduates of the University of Toronto were returned:

Adam Crooks, B.A., '52, LL.D., '63 (Gold Medalist, Classics, Silver, Metaphysics), Minister of Education, Member of the Senate of the University of Toronto—Oxford, South.

W. R. Meredith, LL.B., '72—London.
Col. J. M. Gibson, B.A., '63, LL.B., '69 (Silver Medalist, Classics and Modern Languages and Prince's Prizeman, Gold Medalist in Law), Member of the Senate of the University of Toronto—Hamilton.

Richard Harcourt, B.A., '70 (Silver Medalist Metaphysics)—Monck.

H. M. Deroche, B.A., '68, (Silver Medalist Modern Languages)—Addington.

W. H. Scott, B.A., '60—Peterboro', West.

John Carscaden, M.B., '63—Elgin, West.

R. H. Robinson, M.B., '73—Cardwell.

H. Robertson, M. B., '70—Halton.

There should be a full attendance at the meeting of the Society next Friday evening, when the question of finances will be up. To do the work of the Society, and to put its building in order, more money is required, and the General Committee see only one way to raise it, an increase in the membership fee. Most of the students admit that the increase is necessary; there is some difference as to its amount.

GALES'

SHIRT MANUFACTORY.

WHITE DRESS SHIRTS,

FRENCH CAMBRIC, OXFORD and

WOOL SHIRTS.

CLUB SUITS,

in Cricketing, Boating, Foot Ball, Base Ball, Lacrosse, or other suits, in any colour or style, for which special prices will be given on application.

GENTLEMEN'S

Collars, Cuffs, Hosiery, Gloves, Ties, Scarfs
Umbrellas, Rubber Coats, etc.

All Goods marked in plain figures and at cash prices.

GALE'S SHOPS,

116 YONGE ST., and 17 KING ST. WEST.