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THE OWL

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE

Published by the Students of the
COLLEGE OF OTTAWA.



VOL. I.

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The



Owl.

VOL. I.

COLLEGE OF OTTAWA, JANUARY 1888.

NO. I.



SALUTATORY.

With the birth of '88 THE OWL makes its first appearance as a College Journal.

It comes not as a prognosticator, to penetrate into the dim future; nor even owl-like, to fly in the dark. No: its aim is clear — to unite more closely, if such a thing be possible, the students of the past and present to their Alma Mater by furnishing them with short and we hope interesting accounts of her progress in every line.

We have experienced very keenly the necessity of a journal in such an important institution as Ottawa University. The idea of establishing a college paper here has long been under consideration; and it was not without a careful survey of the surroundings that we launched the venture. Vast though the number of college papers be, we feel that the field of college journalism is vaster still, that there is yet a row to hoe, an unclaimed furrow, an unturned sod, and consequently ample employment for another laborer.

We enter upon our self-allotted task with the best intentions; we extend to all co-workers the right hand of fellowship, and hope, by maintaining that dignity in tone and bearing so becoming to journalists, to merit the esteem and approbation of all.

THE OWL has no pretensions to be a popular public paper. It is essentially the organ of the past and present students of Ottawa University: its columns shall ever be open to their contributions, and it is the hope of the editors to be able to offer in the near future prizes for the best essays on various subjects. There is much latent talent in many whom we know, and we hope that this will be the means of drawing them from their inglorious ease.

We beg the indulgence of our readers for the crude and unpolished state of our first number. To those who have any experience in the matter the reason will be evident, and relying on the kindness of all we bespeak a friendly reception to THE OWL.

THE OWL,

By the author of *Garnet and Gray*.

When the Roman warrior proud,
Vengeance on his foes had vowed,
Thoughts of danger all effaced,
Heaven-approved the plans he traced.
Yet tho' Jove oft blessed his shield,
Caudine Forks and Cannæ's field
Teach that sometimes he yield.
Did some doubt his soul perplex,
Called he on the avispeex:
Face to south he bade him stand,
Mark the heavens on either hand,
Then demanded of his skill,
Auguries of good or ill;
Paths of flying birds observed,
By whose course his own was swerved.
So, ere we our work begin,
Brightest omens would we win,
Task of serious import ours,
Tread we not a path of flowers,
Bird with intellectual brow!
O be our good dæmon, thou!
Thou, most taciturn of birds!
Teach us to speak "winged words."
Bird of night! auspicious be,
Many nocturn vigils, we
Spend in laboring for thee.
Bird of wisdom! may we share
All of it thou hast to spare.
Loved of Pallas! Short-cared one!
Thou, who shun'st the noon-day sun!
May we profit by thy laws,
Learn to seek not vain applause;
Truth and Right our masters be,
These we serve while serving thee.

THE RELATION OF POLITICAL ECONOMY TO MORAL SCIENCE.

Nowadays, when almost every man has a voice in deciding political questions, the leading principles, at least, of political economy should be very generally known. That every one who is called upon to exercise the right of franchise should give himself up to a very exhaustive study of the science cannot be expected: but almost every one (in Canada and America at any rate) reads newspaper articles on subjects which involve economic principles. It is then obviously of the greatest importance that newspaper editors should be students of political economy, and especially that they should recognize its relation to moral science.

Now unfortunately, Adam Smith, who is justly called the founder of political economy, and who has exercised a great influence on all subsequent English writers, failed to observe this relation, indeed he systematically excluded all moral considerations. Henry Fawcett, a sincere admirer of Smith, speaks in the introductory remarks of his *Manual of Political Economy*, of "the accusation which is so constantly brought against political economy, that it is a science which encourages selfishness and degrades the best feelings of human nature." The fact that this accusation is so constantly made is very significant. In the course of this article I shall endeavor to trace the cause of such a charge to the neglect of subordinating Political Economy to Morals.

To point out the errors in a science so vast is a task that might well appal the most egotistical; but it may not be presumptuous on the part of a young student of this most important science, to indicate briefly the difference between the views of Catholic economists and those of Protestant writers. The more so, as we have in English few, if any, exponents of what may be called the Catholic school of political economists.

These writers justly claim that society is composed of, and exists for individuals. Therefore the individual gives up none of

his natural rights by becoming a member of society: that is to say becoming a citizen. This is directly opposed to those whose tendency is to believe that the individual exists for society, — witness, the claim made by many that the state, as head of society, may not only compel a father to educate his child, (which is but just,) but to educate him in a manner determined by the state.

It may be said that, as far as political economy is concerned, this is irrelevant. Not so. The constitution of society must necessarily affect any system of political economy, even admitting that it has to deal only with the material welfare of society. In a society where obtain christian principles, and equality of all before the law, the material order must be manifestly different from that of a society founded on the pagan principle of slavery and the spoliation of the weak by the strong.

To facilitate the attainment of the ultimate end of the individual, therefore, is, or should be, the aim of society. What is the ultimate end of man? Christians can give but one answer; — to attain eternal Salvation. Among the material means for its attainment the first and most important is wealth. Now "to investigate the laws which govern the production, distribution and exchange of wealth" is, undoubtedly, the object of political economy. But such investigation without regard to moral science tends to justify "the accusation so constantly brought against political economy that it encourages selfishness and degrades the best feelings of human nature."

When economists speak of the price of labor as regulated by the law of supply and demand, and of the laborer as they would of a piece of machinery, they may say that the law of supply and demand holds good when applied to labor as well as to anything else, and that it is only as a piece of machinery in the production of wealth that political economy has to deal with the laborer. Of course, if we ac-

cept the definition of the Smith school of economists this is justification enough. But this is precisely wherein we differ. We could accept Fawcett's definition if the words "as ordained to social welfare" were added.

Wealth is but a means to an end: that end is the welfare of society, and by society I do not mean the state as it is commonly understood and especially not the state when it is understood to be the political party, which happens for the time being, to be in power — I mean society as composed of the individuals of a nation. The end of the individual is his eternal salvation — the object of society is to facilitate the attainment of this end. Wealth is one of the necessary means for this attainment. Therefore the science of wealth is directly subordinated to moral science. — Therefore we must consider man not only as a *hand* but also as a *heart* and *mind*. This it is the duty of political economists to consider when investigating the laws that govern wealth as to its production etc. It is their duty, for instance, to investigate the laws that govern the production of wealth while the *natural right* is secured to the laborer, of being able to

live so as to attain his end, to support his family and to educate his children.

Again take the example which Fawcett gives: — Compulsory Education. Speaking of this he says substantially that political economy treats of such a question in as much as it affects wealth without regard to the increase or decrease of morality that might ensue from its adoption. As well might political economy treat of all kinds of fraud, for surely fraud affects the distribution of wealth.

Political economy is from its very nature as we have shown, subordinated to Moral Science, and to separate them rigidly, cannot be productive of other than the most disastrous results.

This is no meteoric theory shooting across the firmament of political science, but the teaching of a school of economists which I regret to say is unrepresented in English. In Continental Europe, however, it has a numerous following.

Lepay and Claudio Janet (not to my knowledge translated into English) can be recommended to those wishing to study political economy from a Catholic point of view.

J. T. FOLEY, '88.

VICTOR HUGO, AS SEEN IN "*LES MISÉRABLES*."

A great man was this Victor Hugo; a mighty power for good or evil.

A man of transcendent ability, who wrote prose and poetry with equal grace and charm. Intellectually a giant, morally a pigmy, there is no man of modern France, who ever wielded such a power over the minds of all classes, nor ever one who used his power to the furtherance of a more censurable purpose. We would not accuse Victor Hugo of doing such an act wilfully — no, we believe that he was honestly sincere and desirous of the general good, but the fact is painfully evident that his pernicious doctrines have driven thousands of persons into the mire of Communism and false Socialism.

We do not intend to offer here anything approaching a review of Victor Hugo's

works, or a criticism of his style, but merely to draw attention to a few of the more prominent and dangerous socialistic tendencies of his book — *Les Misérables*. It is written in that elegant, forcible, and charming style, of which Victor Hugo was so consummate a master. Though clothed in this elegant dress, the skeleton is as hideous as ever a shroud enclosed, and it is truly painful to see such beauty of diction wasted upon such useless, yea absolutely injurious matter. Indeed, it may be truthfully asserted of *Les Misérables* that of all the evil works thrown upon French society during the past half century, it has been the most widespread in its ravages and the most disastrous in its results. The reason for this is not far to seek. In *Les Misérables*, the

author hurls his invectives against poverty, ignorance, and misery; he could not have chosen three classes which have a more numerous representation in the world, and hence from the first he was assured of a large following. The poor, the ignorant, the miserable are the ubiquitous, I might almost say indispensable, ingredients of every state, of every society. They are ever ready to follow blindly the banner that leads to wealth and distinction, and, as a consequence, eagerly embrace any movement which has for its object, avowed or disguised, the overthrow of the existing state of things. This is a lamentable, though none the less certain, fact, and of his fact Victor Hugo, whether designedly or otherwise I know not, took advantage in the composition of *Les Misérables*.

The whole work is a satire on society; it is more, — it is an indictment against society for alleged wrongs perpetrated on its individual members; the trial takes place before a prejudiced tribunal and jury — popular opinion, — and the evidence brought forth is one-sided and false. Victor Hugo charges society with degrading men by pauperism, women by hunger, and children by having them brought up in ignorance, and he holds that society owes support to the first, protection to the second, and education to the third. Hence the apology which he makes for writing this book “As long as there exists in the world ignorance or misery, books of the nature of the present one are useful.” Judged by their effects, their utility is of a rather doubtful character.

Let us see how Victor Hugo supports the terrible accusation that he lays at the door of society. He takes particular cases, produces partial witnesses, and hence arrives at false conclusions. The romance rests upon the sufferings of Jean Valjean, who, Victor Hugo would have us believe has been condemned to spend nineteen years on the galleys for stealing a loaf of bread to keep himself from starving. Thus society is represented as condemning a man for an act of which he was not morally guilty, and as branding him with the infamous name of *convict*, a

stain which, so Hugo says, years of penance could not, or at least, did not efface.

Now the grave error of such a charge against society is at once apparent. Such a case of extreme hardship and injustice as that of Jean Valjean happens, if at all, very rarely, and then rather by accident than through design. Yet the poet treats it as an everyday occurrence, and he unsparingly administers the lash to society for every individual circumstance in which any member suffers. This is unfair even on the admission that society is responsible for the general existence of misery and destitution in the world. But no such admission can be allowed; hence the charge is not only unfair, but it is unjust and false in every particular.

It was well said that “misery is the outcome of our own shortcomings”

Society places within easy reach of everyone the means by which he may support his family, if not in elegance, at least in comfort. She furnishes him with the necessaries for the protection of his wife and the education of his children.

Of course he is not expected to sit idly by with his head between his hands and growl and grumble because the good things of the world are not his. He must be up and doing. But if he neglect to avail himself of the opportunities offered, why should society be blamed for the consequent suffering? If, through his indifference or absolute perversity, his family be raised in poverty, hunger, and squalor, why should society be held responsible? To arrive at such a conclusion is absolutely unwarranted by the facts of the case, and yet it is upon these premises that the author of *Les Misérables* bases his charge against society.

Mr. Hugo falls into another grave error — an error common to writers of his stamp. He carefully avoids any reference to the *cause* of the many social evils which he so violently attacks. Hence he cannot, or at least he does not give any solution of the various knotty and troublesome problems of modern socialism. He suggests no means by which these evils might be remedied or redressed. He contents himself with affirming

their existence, and produces a few exceptional cases to prove the truth of his affirmation. This can scarcely be characterized as the curse of a man either honest in his convictions or desirous of reaching truth. It looks more like a determined attempt to wrong the innocent.

Throughout his whole work Victor Hugo teaches a false morality, and his references to religion and religious persons are not always of the most complimentary kind. He fails to see the

influence of Catholic Christianity upon the evils which he deplors; he knows nothing of the solace it gives to our woes, nor of the strength it gives us in supporting a lversities. He does not perceive that in Christ we have a most striking example of poverty, quite as great as that of modern times, but, unlike the latter, accompanied by that patience, perseverance, and love of honest toil, qualities so conspicuously absent among the socialists of the present day.

M. F. FALLON, '89.

A JANUARY ADVENTURE.

Cold blew the blast that whistled through the barren branches of the trees of Snowville, early one January morning, as the slowly lifting darkness in the east betokened the dawn of another dull, wintry day; yet at that early hour of this most inclement season of the year, a very close observer might have seen some signs of activity about the principal institution of learning in Snowville. I saw a very close observer, for the movements of the party, — it was composed of four persons — were such as to excite suspicion. They were engaged in bearing various bundles from one of the out-buildings of the college, and hurriedly forcing them into a cab that was in waiting, every few moments glancing up at the windows of the building and up and down the street, as if they feared detection.

At last the task of loading the vehicle was completed, and three of the party forced themselves with difficulty into the cab, while the fourth, a local Jehu, enveloped himself in his furs and mounted to his seat. Down the street dashed the vehicle, the hard, frozen snow groaning under the pressure of the runners. The outskirts of the town were soon reached, and leaving behind the shelter of its houses and the smoothness of its streets, they labored on over the unbroken country roads, the cold north wind blowing directly against them.

Who were they, whither were they journeying? Why this early departure,

and this secrecy? Why did they leave Snowville, itself on the very verge of civilization, and plunge over fields of deep snow into the bleak, almost deserted North, towards a village peopled only by a few hardy farmers, who at this season were "snowed in." Let us peer into the cab while it labors slowly along the almost impassable road; let us attempt to remove the veil of secrecy that overshadows our narrative, and share the adventures of the party. We approach the vehicle and examine the driver.

He is one mass of furs, the only signs of animation he presents are the puffs of vapor, issuing at regular intervals like the exhaust of a miniature steam engine, from a small opening in his coverings. The windows of the cab too, resist our curiosity: the breathing of the inmates has long since coated them with a layer of frost, the thickness of which defies our powers of penetration.

But hold, — curiosity is as strong in the interior of the vehicle as it is on the outside, and what is more for the purpose, it is more efficacious, for one of the travelers has removed the frost from a portion of the window near him, in order, no doubt, that he might lose none of the beauties of the snow wastes through which they were journeying.

We gaze into the cab and what meets our view? Close to our peep-hole we behold the genial, smiling countenance of one of the professors of Snow-

vill. College. Yes, it is Mr. Philips, and he is wedged in his corner by the pressure of two large sacks, which occupy the greater part of the interior. The sacks impede our view of the other travellers, but a chance displacement of one of them discovers to our gaze Mr. Johnson another professor, and the third party is a student of the College.

What secret expedition can take these usually staid and law-abiding gentlemen into this region, with such a mysterious equipage? They were not known to have expressed any desire for an active part in the discovery of the North Pole, nor was their equipment the ordinary one of Arctic explorers. But hush! what altercation takes place between the travellers?

We look in, and discover that the displacement of the sacks which disclosed to our view Mr. Johnson and the student, was caused by Mr. Philips in endeavoring to extract a cigar from an inner pocket.

Mr. Johnson opposes Mr. Philips' smoking and this is the cause of the discussion. They have come to some agreement, for the cab is stopped; and the bags which, though large and fully distended, seem to have no weight, are placed outside, and strapped to the top of the cab.

While this is in progress, we see that one of the sacks is marked with a large H, the other with a large O. Mr. Philips now lights his cigar and smokes contentedly, the others wrap their robes more closely around them, and all lapse into silence. The removal of the sacks gives us a better view of the interior of the cab. We see several small boxes, a quantity of rubber tubing, and what gives us the key to the mystery, — a magic lantern!

Mr. Philips is quite popular in the vicinity of Snowville as a lecturer; and very likely, this journey is for the purpose of enlightening the inhabitants of January, a village about sixteen miles north of Snowville, on the road over which they were now travelling.

Why the village went by the name of January, I know not, unless it is, as one of the villagers remarked, "because we have January weather 'most the whole year round." The sacks then, strapped on the

top of the cab must contain the hydrogen and oxygen gases utilized in the apparatus; and this accounts for Mr. Johnson's opposition to Mr. Philips' smoking in the cab while the sacks were there.

The mystery solved, we will once more turn our attention to the members of the party. Mr. Philips is reclining in his corner, contentedly watching the clouds of smoke ascending before his eyes. He has been doing this for the past half-hour. He finds something strange about the smoke. It does not exhibit the bluish color that he generally notices; moreover, it possesses no feeling of warmth. This puzzles him. He meditates on it, but is unable to account for it. At last he perceives that the cigar is as long as ever; in fact it has been out for some time. The puffs of light colored smoke that were ascending before Mr. Philips' eyes were puffs of *vapor condensed from his breathing*. This incident caused much merriment in the party; and Mr. Philips was about to relight his cigar when the sudden stopping of the cab, and the shouts of the driver arrested him. The wind blowing very hard, had loosened one of the bags from its fastenings, and sent it skimming along a field, till its progress was arrested by a fence a few rods distant. The driver, assisted by the wind, soon reached the bag, and essayed to swing it upon his shoulders. At this moment, the wind blowing with redoubled vigor from another quarter carried the sack and the unlucky driver a rod further away. This battle lasted quite a time, till the driver became very warm both in his body and in his temper. He finally succeeded in bringing back and firmly strapping down to its place the object of his care.

The travellers proceeded on their way; the journey becoming more difficult, till at last they came to a stand-still, and the vehicle careened over on one side.

The road was impassable. The driver informed them that they must walk a short distance, until he got by the bad spot in the road. The travellers left their shelter, thinking that a little exercise would warm them up. The cold, biting wind blew directly upon them and soon

the ears and noses of the party gave evidence of being frostbitten.

Their first impulse was to rub the frozen members with snow, but to their dismay the snow was covered with a hard crust. The welcome sight of real smoke curling from a chimney half buried in the snow a few hundred yards in from the road, next attracted them; and with heads down against the wind, they rushed towards it and into the log hut of a farmer greatly alarmed at this unexpected invasion.

His surprise soon gave way to sympathy, and he and his wife busied themselves in the care of the travellers.

After an hour's delay, another start was made, this time with their destination about three miles distant. They reached it in a little over an hour; and immediately began a search for the town hall, where the lecture was to be. As there was no building of any pretension in sight, the driver, who by the way was cold probably by reason of numerous draughts of liquid fire, was deputed to inquire its location. He found his way into a building close by, and in a few minutes issued again wearing a nonplussed look. He said "I can't make head nor tail of what she sez; for she's narely distracted; she's the biggest family I ever seen since I came to the country; there's as many as thirty childer there."

Mr. Johnson then undertook to investigate and soon returned with the information that the building was a country school-house, and that the hall was the small brick building opposite. The baggage was deposited at the hall door; and a search made for the good Father Rowan; at whose request the lecture was to take place. He was soon discovered, and was surprised that his visitors had ventured out in such weather. However, as there was not much time left for preparation, the party returned to the hall. Fire wood was brought in, the snow and ice removed from the benches, and a large screen was stretched diagonally across the hall.

A lunch was then taken at the house of a neighbour, and afterwards it was time to begin the entertainment. Mr. John-

son managed the instrument which he placed near the stove; and Mr. Phillips, muffled in his overcoat, took his position near the scene. Mr. Phillips surveyed his audience of about one hundred persons, men, women and children of all ages.

The youngest children furnished music continually throughout the evening. The subject of the lecture was "An Evening in Ireland," the native land of the greater part of the adult audience.

Despite Mr. Phillips' oratory, and the most magnificent lantern effects of Mr. Johnson, the audience resisted all attempts to draw forth from them any acknowledgement of interest or gratification.

The choicest gems of Ireland's scenery; the portraits of her patriots; the most laughable comic effects; all were of no avail. Twice only were any audible signs of interest given. The first was when an old farmer, trying to get a good position, placed himself close to, and in front of the lantern; thereby getting the view upon his back, to the astonishment of the audience and the dismay of his wife, who made frantic endeavors to rub the picture on his back. The other disturbance was occasioned by Mr. Johnson, who wished to see what would be the effect of showing the views independently of the lecturer's description. This, Mr. Phillips, from his close proximity to the screen, did not notice, and when a portrait of Father Rowan was exhibited, Mr. Phillips calmly announced "*the Core of Cork!*" This caused a sensation, and one of the audience informed the lecturer that "Father Rowan was a Kerry man."

When Mr. Phillips came out in front and saw the picture, his equanimity was overcome, and he speedily brought the entertainment to a close.

There was no question of returning to Snowville that night: so the party determined to accept the hospitality of a neighbor. The next day was much less inclement than the preceding one, yet the party took another and much more passable route home, which they reached without further adventure.

❖ The ❖ Owl. ❖

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Students are requested to trade with our advertisers.

VOL. I. JANUARY 1888. NO. 1.

N. B. Volumes of "The Owl" will begin with the September number and end with that for June. Accordingly subscriptions for the remainder of the current scholastic year will be received at fifty cents.

SIR THOMAS GRATTAN
ESMONDE.

THE RECENT visit of Sir Thomas Grattan Esmonde to our College was the third occasion in little more than a year upon which we have been honored by the presence in our Academic Hall of a prom-

inent member of the Parnellite Party.

The first was when Justin Mc Carthy came on a lecturing tour through Canada and the United States; and the second when William O'Brien undertook to expose to liberty-loving America the atrocities perpetrated on the estates, and in the name of Canada's Governor-General.

Both these patriots were received with enthusiasm, and the reception tendered Sir Thomas Grattan Esmonde was such as befitted his name and mission. Besides being one of the heroes in the fight now going on in the old land and possessing personal qualities of high merit, he is a direct descendant of Ireland's great orator, Henry Grattan. The knowledge of these facts guaranteed him a cordial welcome from the Irish on this side of the Atlantic, and the students of Ottawa University offered no exception to his triumphal tour of the past few weeks. On behalf of his fellow-students M. F. Fallon addressed him a few words of welcome, to which Sir Thomas feelingly replied.

Though not possessing as yet any tokens of lofty eloquence his language is clear, elegant, and forcible, and his manner and bearing pleasing, even fascinating. In speaking he is easy, graceful, natural and winning — having in a high degree that personal magnetism which exercises so powerful an influence over an audience, and this power he uses to the best advantage. He is eminently fitted to accomplish the mission upon which he was sent to this country — to show that the programme of the Irish National Party is not so base as it is pictured by the cable. The moderation of his language, and the calm unimpassioned manner in which he discussed the most enraging points of Salisbury's Co-

ercion act must have produced a favorable impression in the minds of the bitterest opponents of Home Rule. His visit will certainly be productive of good results among those who heretofore have looked with contempt, or at least with coldness, on every Irish movement.

We feel convinced that Sir Thomas Grattan Esmonde carries away with him pleasant memories of his visit to Ottawa College, and his speech to the students would certainly seem to indicate that he was deeply touched by their manifestations of patriotic sentiments. He characterized their reception as not being second in enthusiasm and evident sincerity to any that had been accorded him since he set foot upon American soil. God speed him and his cause.

Look here upon this picture and on this. — During the late Intercollegiate Foot-ball series a 'Varsity club was laying the flattering unction to its soul that its defeat was due to the roughness of its opponents. At the same time the papers were filled with letters accusing the students of this same university, not of roughness on a foot-ball field, but of rowdiness in their own convocation hall!

The faultfinders were not equally disinterested either, were they, 'Varsity?

It affords us the sincerest pleasure for more than one reason, to notice the election of our former fellow-student, Mr. Gerald A. Griffin, of Toronto, as president of the Ontario Rugby Football Union. He always manifested a lively interest in all manly sports and is an enthusiastic admirer of the favorite college game of foot-ball.

What is especially gratifying is that the Toronto University delegate nomin-

ated him. We take this as indicative of the good will of the 'Varsity club, and we are glad to believe that a very few of that club made a great deal of noise,

Congratulations, Gerald!

Fanatics who see in anything connected with the Papacy nothing but the beast and scarlet woman of the Apocalypse must have thought that the world, for the past few weeks, was going mad.

Protestant sovereigns and statesmen vied with the rulers of the faithful in honoring Leo XIII on the occasion of his golden jubilee. Clear sighted statesmen recognize that the Catholic Church is, at least, a valuable aid in eradicating the evils of modern society, though they may not acknowledge that she alone can revivify the civilisation which she formed out of barbarism. Indications are that in the not distant future the Eternal City will be restored to the "Prisoner of the Vatican" who will then be untrammelled by any earthly laws in the fulfilment of his sublime mission.

We would remind any of our friends who might be disposed to be hypercritical, that all the typos of THE OWL are students, and of course amateurs.

One of the primary objects in establishing THE OWL, is as stated in the Salutatory, to unite more closely the Students of the past with those of the present, and with their Alma Mater.

We are desirous therefore that former students should manifest their interest in our work, in a practical way, that they should feel themselves free to make suggestions, and from time to time contribute articles, which we shall have great pleasure in publishing.

THE NEW COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Exclamations of astonishment and delight were freely indulged in by the students of our commercial department, when, after their return from the Christmas holidays, they entered their newly-fitted up quarters. During the absence of the students, carpenters and painters were busy, and well they worked, for indeed the offices of this department have undergone a wonderful transformation, and it is safe to assert, that the students now possess facilities for acquiring a thorough practical business training second to none in the Dominion. Entering the department, our attention is attracted by the familiar clicking noticed in telegraph offices, and, sure enough, right before us is an elegantly equipped office; and on the black-walnut frieze running along the office front we see in raised gold letters the words: "Telegraph Office." Here the students are trained in the use of the telegram in the business world. We see embryo merchants writing out despatches on the printed blanks of the "College Telegraph Co." Messenger boys are carrying despatches to the various offices with a lethargy that is not surpassed by their prototypes of the metropolis.

All the offices are similar in finish, and from a description of the telegraph office an idea of the others may be formed. The wood work is in white oak and black walnut. The lower portion consists of the counter or table usually seen in telegraph offices, containing the keys, sounders, relays and other apparatus required in telegraphy. From the front of this counter rise four black walnut columns, supporting a massive entablature in ornamental wood-work.

Above the capitals we see a handsomely carved architrave; then the frieze work bearing the office name; the whole surmounted by a black walnut cornice.

A heavy wire screen runs from column to column around the office; and above the center department arises an elegant crest. The next office is occupied by the "Express Co.," and here the duties and

obligations of carriers are taught.

Along in order come the offices assigned to "Jobbers and Importers," "Real Estate Agency," with its lists of imaginary property described in glowing terms, "Merchants Emporium," and "Stationery." The next office seems to have an attraction; for there is quite a gathering about it; we look up and find we are now in the "Stock Exchange." Here the youthful "bulls and bears" toss up and tear down the securities and stocks of the various College companies as ardently and zealously as the habitués of Wall St.

Leaving this scene of excitement, we stop for a calendar at the "Insurance Office" and pass the "Post Office" where we see the customary lists and notices, even the announcement of the office hours of the Money order and Registration departments. The next office is that of the "Notary Public" with its bulletin board, containing a few of those announcements so ominous in mercantile life.

Close by we enter the "Bank" with its compartments occupied respectively by the paying teller, cashier, and receiving teller. This completes our tour, and impresses us with the idea that the College authorities in providing such elegant and commodious apartments for its commercial school, not only merit, but will receive success.

In fitting for mercantile pursuits, no method can be so conducive to success as that employed in the College of Ottawa.

Here each boy in his turn occupies one of the various offices and then is made acquainted with its inner workings.

They are supplied with bills, currency, check books, and all the printed blanks met with in the business world; and are taught how to use them. The best test of the utility of the method is the success of our graduates in commercial life, which we hope to note from time to time in its proper column in our journal.

In order that we may do this, we request all our readers to furnish us, from time to time, with any items of interest concerning our commercial graduates that may come to their notice.

IN MEMORIAM.

WILLIAM KAVANAGH, '91, Glen Nevis, Ont., died Nov. 26, 1887; HENRY GRADY, '91, Clinton, Mass., died Dec. 25, 1887; ZEPHERIN BARRETTE, Hull, P. Q., died Dec. 28, 1887.

Summer's heats and autumn's glory,
All have passed and in their stead,
Winter's snow and frosts so hoary
Wrap the earth and shroud the dead.

Cruel Death alone could sever
Those dear hearts which we had bound
Close to ours, in friendship, ever
Pure as that midst angels found,

Alma Mater broken-hearted
Mourns her sons and sadly weeps,
Yet she knows each dear departed
Safely on CHRIST'S bosom sleeps.

They were heroes, and the token
Of their lives shall e'er remain,
Till all earthly ties are broken,
Till in Heaven we meet again.

D.

THE CHAPEL.

The College chapel, a detailed account of which appeared in the *Ottawa Citizen* on the occasion of its consecration last June, has recently been the object of important improvements, and now in its completed state, it compares very favorably with any structure of a similar nature on the continent. The sanctuary has been made to assume a regular and symmetrical appearance by the addition thereto of a handsome altar to the right of the main one. The body of the new altar which is of wood, beautifully decorated, is surmounted by a marble slab, which forms its table. But by far the most important addition is the elegant and commodious sacristy which has just been finished, situated conveniently to the right of the sanctuary. No efforts have been spared to make it a worthy annex of the magnificent chapel. The walls and all the necessary appurtenances are

in black walnut, with cherry trimmings, and the ceiling is most tastefully frescoed. Several new articles of altar decoration have also been added, including an elegant monstrosity of modern design.

ATHLETICS.

EVERY branch of athletics in the College is under the control of one committee, — the executive of the Athletic Association. This arrangement was begun in April '85, and since then dates the phenomenal success of Ottawa College students in all manly sports. Previous to that time, each club had its own committee, the decisions of which were final and binding, no matter they clashed with other interests or not. Hence often arose grievous and provoking disputes among the various committees. To remedy this state of affairs the Association was formed.

The effect was almost instantaneous.

While before there was much wrangling and dissatisfaction, now all were united in the desire to advance each other and the common interests of the Association. Great things were expected from this union, and future developments showed that expectations of the most sanguine, fell far short of the real success attained.

THE PRINCIPAL events of the season that preceded the formation of the Athletic Association were the great Harvard game and the Montreal match in the spring. Though defeated in both of these contests the Varsities learned many points which they hastened to put to account. The Harvards expected a walk-over, but the game was one of the hardest that they played that year. The score was 20 to 9, and they were accustomed to win by such scores as 30, 40, and 50 to 0. It must also be remembered that our boys played by strange rules, and rules radically different from those of Canadian Rugby. During the first half of the game they set themselves to learn the rules, and the result was that in the second half they tied the score with Har-

ward, 6 to 6, and outplayed them in many points. The game with the Montrealers was lost through several members of the team being out of condition. For several weeks previous they had been resting on their laurels, but the game in Montreal taught them that no man can play foot-ball on a reputation.

Since the formation of the Association, however, everything has been rosy, and in foot-ball nothing like an approach to defeat was encountered, while in base-ball and lacrosse our clubs have had Fortune's smile more often than her frown.

The first fifteen have held for three years the championship of Ontario, and this year, by defeating the Montrealers, they added to their laurels the proud title of Champions of Canada.

Their career has indeed been wonderful, and it is acknowledged by competent and impartial critics that they give the most scientific exposition of football to be seen in the country. Considering that they are but mere boys, the success they have attained in competition with the best developed men in Canada is remarkable. The following table exhibits the work of the football teams during the past season, our boys winning every game.

FIRST FIFTEEN,

CHAMPIONS OF CANADA.

- Oct. 8, — R. M. C. Cadets, defaulted.
- Oct. 8, — Ottawas, 14 to 0.
- Oct. 19, — Trinity College, defaulted.
- Oct. 19, — Ottawas, 9 to 0.
- Oct. 22, — Toronto University, 9 to 0.
- Oct. 29, — Hamilton, 15 to 0.
- Nov. 5, — Montreal, 10 to 5.

SECOND FIFTEEN.

- Oct. 15, — Second Ottawas, 12 to 5.

THIRD FIFTEEN.

- Nov. 5, — Collégiate Institute, 33 to 0.

This is certainly a creditable showing. Since their entrance into the Ontario Union, the first fifteen have played seventeen games, winning them all, and making a total score of 233 points against 34 for their opponents — a record as yet unequalled in Canadian football.

Though football is the leading sport,

as is to be expected in colleges, other games are not neglected.

CANADA'S national game has many warm admirers and able exponents among the members of the A. A., and the Ottawa College Lacrosse Club holds a high rank among district teams. A challenge to the present holders of the Ottawa Lacrosse Club's junior championship cup was, for some unexplained reason, left unanswered by those to whom it was sent. Perhaps the fact that the said club were twice defeated by the Collegians would offer some clue to their action in the matter. During the past season, owing to the intense excitement prevailing over football, lacrosse was somewhat forgotten, and only two matches were played, one, a draw with the Junior Ottawas, and the other, a victory over the Independents by three goals to two. The latter game created much enthusiasm. Several of the members of the College team have played with first class teams in championship and exhibition games. As no football is played in the spring we may then look for a boom in the noble game of lacrosse.

WE ARE THE possessors of a crack Base-ball nine, the beses. strictly amateur nine in Canada. Their latter performances have been highly satisfactory, including three defeats for the Ottawa City club, a victory over the "Beavers" of Montreal, and last and greatest, a grand triumph over the celebrated St. Michael's College nine. Each man on our nine played his position well, and the batting and base-running were far above the average. It was in quick and sharp fielding, however, that they particularly excelled. The baseball committee should have their eyes open early and arrange several matches for next spring.

THE ABOVE are the principal summer sports. During the long winter are we housed up with none but indoor amusements? Not at all. The fulness of Canadian winter offers an excellent opportunity to engage in that most exhilarating pastime — snowshoeing, and many take advantage of the opportunity. The benefit to be derived from a good tramp

is almost incalculable, and the snow-shoers as a rule are the most robust students in the College, and the importance of a strong physical constitution for the advantageous pursuit of a course of studies can scarcely be overestimated.

Then during the recreation hours of the winter season, the splendidly equipped gymnasium is constantly filled with those who are eager to train the body as well as the mind. They could scarce have chosen a more fitting place, as there are but few gymnasia that are better supplied with all the modern athletic needs and appliances.

A fencing club also offers its attractions to those who love the foil. Unfortunately but little interest is taken in this club, and as a consequence there are only a few who are acquainted with the principles of fencing. On the whole, athletics are very well patronized and a high degree of perfection is attained in them all. This is owed entirely to the life and energy which the Association has infused into its members. The following have the management of affairs for the current year.

Mr. P. J. O'Malley, President; Mr. Jos. Masson, First Vice Pres.; Mr. J. T. Foley, Second Vice Pres.; Mr. W. F. Kehoe, Recording Secretary; Mr D. R. Macdonald, Corresponding Sec.; Mr. J. P. Donovan, Treasurer.

Committee:—Rev. D. Guillet, O. M. I., C. J. Mahoney, and R. Paradis. The managers of the different teams are Mr. P. O'Malley for football; Mr. D. R. Macdonald for lacrosse; Mr. C. J. Mahoney for baseball; and Mr. J. Masson for snow-shoe club.

NOTES.

—S. J. McNally is a candidate for next year's fifteen.—(3d.)

—What's the matter with the mid-winter entertainment of the O. C. A. A? It's pretty near time the managers were setting the ball a rolling.

—The thanks of the members of the first fifteen in particular, and of the As-

sociation in general, are due to the citizens who contributed so generously towards defraying the expenses of the Hamilton trip.

—“*Sport*,” the Montreal paper, deserves the best wishes of the students of Ottawa College for the handsome and manly manner in which they defended us against the spoutings of some western would-be critics.

—V! A! R! S! I! T! Y! may not be very musical; it may offend a finely strung ear; but it has been the cry of victory for a long time past.

—There's nothing flashy about our colors—garnet and gray—but, in our eyes, they are as venerable as “the flag that braved a hundred years the battle and the breeze.”

—Eugene Dorgan made a splendid umpire. He is now appealing to the referees in the Grand Seminary. We hope that he succeeds well in his interpretation of the rules.

—G. A. Griffin, President, Ontario Rugby Union! We congratulate you, old Pres., and hope to see you soon again amongst us.

—So next year the cup will be played for by challenge. Wake up, boys, and don't allow yourselves to be caught napping. Some rules should have been enacted that would prevent the “perpetual scrimmage.” Long scrimmaging is both tiresome for the players and tormenting to the spectators.

—No graduates are to be allowed to play hereafter on college teams. An excellent rule, and one that will pinch several institutions.

—The one desideratum now:—that Yale and Ottawa College meet.

It would be a classic struggle. We have great confidence in our boys, and feel certain that they cannot be beaten by any team in America at Rugby foot-ball. There should be an International game between the respective champions of Canada and the United States. A satisfactory code of rules might easily be agreed upon.

— Of those who played against Harvard in '84, only four remained to defeat Montreal on Nov. 5, '87. They were Kehoe, Hughes, Guillet, and O'Malley.

— Three strikes and five balls! Who will fill the box for 'Varsity next Spring? The amendment to the rules, or rather the return to the old rules, is a point in favor of the pitchers, and a rap at the

batters. It will also make the game quicker and more interesting.

There are a good many vacancies on the lacrosse team which must be filled up if a good team is to be put in the field. One, about 36 sq. ft. in extent, was previously filled by the amiable "Micky," who now, alas, is no longer with us. His equal will be hard to find.

COLLEGE SOCIETIES.

The Sodality of the Blessed Virgin as reorganized this year, is under the direction of Rev. L. A. Nolin, O. M. I. The officers are: Prefect, J. P. Donovan, '89; First Assistant, T. P. Murphy, '88. Second Assistant, C. C. Delaney, '90. Secretary, R. J. McEachen, '88. Treasurer, M. F. Fallon, '89. Unfavorable circumstances have interfered to prevent the holding of meetings as regularly as desired, but it is expected that henceforth everything will run smoothly. The membership is larger than ever before and the energetic Rev. Director is sparing no pains to make the recitation of the office as perfect as possible.

After the lapse of a year, Rev. J. J. Fillatre O. M. I. reassumes the office of Director of the St. Thomas' Academy which owes its foundation and subsequent success to his fostering care. J. T. Foley, '88, is president. D. V. Phalen, '89, Vice-President; and J. P. Donovan, '89, Secretary.

In the first meeting R. J. McEachen, '88, read an essay on "the Unity of God." T. P. Murphy, '88 being objector. At the second meeting J. Masson, '89, gave a resume of the second book of Zigliara's logic, and M. F. Fallon, '89, read a logical analysis of Act I. Sc. II. of Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar." At the next meeting D. V. Phalen, '89 read a paper on "Scepticism" which was ably criticized by J. L. Chabot '89, and E. J. Leonard '89.

The question "Is the idea of God a scientific one?" was discussed by P. J. O'Malley and J. T. Foley '88 at the last meeting of the society before the Christmas vacation.

The Senior Debating Society is governed by Rev. L. A. Nolin, O. M. I., Director, together with a committee of students composed of R. J. McEachen, D. V. Phalen and C. J. Kennedy. The following subjects are on the table for discussion at an early date. "The danger of foreign immigration to the United States," "Commercial Union," and "Cultivation of arts no indication of soundness of

national life." The society, although one of the youngest in the College, is not by any means the least important. It has been productive of surprisingly good results. It contains this year a number of trained and practised speakers, a large and healthy addition of young blood having flowed in from the Junior Society.

The Reading Room is in an exceedingly prosperous condition. The extent of the membership has enabled its officers to add several new and valuable journals, to the already very large number at their disposal. The hall is one of the cosiest portions of the house, and the tasty arrangement of photographs and other pictures adds greatly to its appearance.

The most conspicuous position is occupied by one of Molloy's fine photo-engravings of the Irish Parliamentary Party. Rev. J. J. Dacey O. M. I., is Director of the Committee, of which R. J. McEachen '88 is President, J. C. Moriarty '90 Secretary, R. Paradis '90 Treasurer, A. Guimet '88 and J. J. Ryan '91 Librarians.

The Mineralogical Society is again directed by Rev. C. F. Marsan O. M. I., together with the following officers: President, M. F. Fallon '89, Vice-Pres. R. Paradis, '90; Rec. Sec. C. C. Delaney, '90; Scientific Sec., G. Gauvrai, O. M. I.; Treas. W. F. Kenoe, '89.

Several analyses of minerals have been given before the society, among these being papers from R. Paradis and J. Paradis.

C. Gaudet and G. D'Orsommens have each read a chemical essay. Notwithstanding its name, this society does not confine its attention to Mineralogy.

The kindred sciences of Botany, Chemistry and Geology, are also made the subjects of instructive lectures and discussions. The greatest encouragement is given to practical work and original research; and many who have already graduated or are soon to graduate, bear grateful testimony to the fact that they owe a great portion of their scientific knowledge, to their connection with the Mineralogical Society,

FLORES ALIENI TEMPORIS.

John Duhig, M. D., '77, is very successful in Quebec.

John Carrol, M. D. '78, is practising his profession in South Boston, Mass.

L. N. Phelan, '86, is studying medicine in Queen's University, Kingston.

C. F. Hamilton, '86, is attending the Law School of Dalhousie University, Halifax.

J. C. Ivers, '86, received tonsure at the December ordinations in Baltimore Seminary.

Rev. Jas. P. F. Kelly, '9, is assistant priest at St. Joseph's Church, Somerville, Mass.

Fred. Gaudet, C. E. is surveying on the Southern Pacific R. R. in California.

J. J. Farrell, '87, and E. A. Dorgan, '87, are at the Grand Seminary, Montreal.

Rev. W. D. McKinnon, '84, is assistant priest at St. Bridget's Church, San Francisco, California.

M. W. Casey's trenchant articles in the Toronto *Catholic Weekly Review*, have become quite a feature of that journal. Those who were classmates of Maurice in '80, are not surprised at this.

J. H. McKechnie, '85, received Deacon's orders at the December ordinations in Baltimore, Md.

W. A. Leonard, '81, has achieved quite a success as a composer. His Mass in E flat and his Regina Cœli have become very popular.

C. F. Driscoll, '77, is a successful lawyer at Chicopee, Mass.

Rev. John Sloan, '78, since leaving the Basilica, has built a church in March, and is now pastor of Nepean, one of the largest parishes in the archdiocese of Ottawa.

Patrick T. Ryan '84, having finished a brilliant course in the Grand Seminary, Montreal, was ordained priest on Dec. 17, at his home in Pembroke, Rt. Rev. Z. N. Lorrain officiating. Father Ryan is now Bishop Lorrain's secretary.

Rev. Farrell J. McGovern '83, has, since his return from Rome last summer, been assistant priest at the Basilica, Ottawa, and the work of ministering to the English speaking portion of Notre Dame parish, falls largely on his shoulders. He is a remarkably good preacher for so young a man.

James McEvoy, C. E., now on the staff of the Canadian Geological & Natural History Survey, has returned to Ottawa from the Yukon district in British Columbia, whither he accompanied Dr. Dawson. His report of the region is not calculated to encourage emigration to it.

The Tabaret Memorial Fund Committee report that they have received subscriptions amounting to \$1100, all collected in Canada; American Alumni have so far neglected to send in their contributions.

The treasurer, F. R. Latchford '82, would like to hear from some of them. His address is 19 Elgin St. Ottawa, Ont.

ULULATUS.

It is rumored that Craig is back, we knew he was coming, at least we heard so.

John Smith did some pretty tall kicking while being tamed, who felt the effect? His mode of reasoning seems to be a *posteriori*.

The Professor of the manly art may be seen every day practicing diligently in the gymnasium, preparatory to receiving new pupils. Many heavy blows fall on the sand bag.

Is it not ungrateful on the part of many of those who clamored for a skating rink, to sit down on it as they do? We think it *unduly* so.

The two Lyons, who during meal time, cast such ravenous eyes on the Hart near by, should control their appetites. He is not *well done*.

A young man, from economic motives no doubt, attempted to blow out the electric light in one of the dormitories a few nights since. Failing in this, he felt around the globe for a few seconds, and finally desisted, remarking that he "*could not get the chimney off*." This story is *current* in the College.

The New England students who returned to Ottawa by the C. P. R. speak highly of the accommodation of the line, and of the courtesy extended them by the C. P. R. officials in Boston.

Of the several students whom the fever epidemic forced into the hospital, the Sisters say that the boy from Lawrence Mass. "*takes the cake*."

An audible smile overspread the faces of the First English class a few days ago, when, in answer to the question: what does the future tense, indicative mood, denote, one of the meekers replied in a loud voice, "notoriety." He *owns* up to the fact that he misunderstood an obliging neighbor who had whispered "to denote futurity."

We regret to announce the resignation of Mr. D. V. Phalen, as one of the curators of the Reading Room. However, he has a worthy successor in the person of John P. Donovan.

Curran and Black thrive very well, considering that they have but one *pound* between them in the refectory.

Work on the annual ice palace in the College yard has begun. The plans indicate that it will surpass all previous efforts.

The slide at the "Farm" was a grand success, as was also the exhibition of amateur snow-plowing given by one of our Pittsburg friends.

A remarkable flight of birds occurred in the physical laboratory, during the holidays. The birds could not have numbered less than four hundred, and occupied fully three hours in passing. They finally lodged in a cosy corner of the museum.

Some of our ornithologists attribute this move on the part of the birds to their instinct of self-preservation, as their former quarters were extremely cold, whilst now, closely huddled together, their mutual warmth makes life endurable.