

University of Toronto.

Toronto, March 3RD, 1898.

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THE VARSITY.

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Vol. XVII.

University of Toronto, March 3, 1898.

No. 18

A VISION OF DESPAIR.

A strip of white sand where the sea with shore merges, A cliff that climbs clear past vision and ken, Sheer up from the shoal where the surf ever surges To the heights of the heaven that hangs over men, And look you to east, or look you to westward, There fronts you forever the face of the foam, Behind you the steep, where the billows rush restward, As they race to their respite from rolling and roam.

And the sea-bird soars high with a shrill, sad sighing,
And circles away to windward and lee,
Till it falls with its feathers in light foam lying,
And vanishes in the unvintaged sea;
And sinks to the depths, where none may behold it,
And is limp and lifeless on lone ocean's floor,
Where the strange phantom fishes in grey gloom enfolded
Cling to their close on the shadowy shore.

Coast-line accursed of mysterious region,
Where gaunt gape the ribs and the spars and the sail
Of drowned vessels manned with a listless legion
Of spirits unburied that speechlessly wail,
Leaden the lilt of the winds that wander
To fan the face of the Thing on the strand;
They whisper a brief while and waft away yonder
Fearsome, and fain to forsake the fey land.

His arms are enfettered in rock adamantine,
He glassily gazes afar o'er the sea;
And breasting forever the break elephantine,
Is doomed to desire what never can be
Tired is his visage as plow-land with furrows,
Snow-white the strands of his straggling hair;
He feeds on false fancies and sups on his sorrows,
And drinks to the dregs the deep draught of despair.

And time never was when the weird thing was not,
It sat there of old, and it sits there to-day,
And a thousand years hence in yon dolorous spot
It will cherish chill grief in the splash of the spray.
The skies may be folded and faded earth's landscape,
But change shall come never where change never came,
And the strand and the steep, and the surge and the
strange shape
Shall remain still forever and ever the same /

WILLIAM HARDY ALEXANDER.

IN THE MOUNTAINS.

Of the life of those pioneers of civilization, the engineers, but little is known, therefore the following sketch of life on a survey party will, I hope, be of some interest to others besides the "School" men. The coureur du bois, the missionary, the trapper, all have their historians. The traveller reclining in his upholstered seat and admiring the scenery, marvels at the twists and turns of the ribbon of steel. Little does he think of the hardships endured without a complaint, of the perils met in the

performance of duty, or of the disappointments which are the every day lot of an engineer. But the life is not all thorns. The vigorous, healthy outdoor work gives one an appetite unequalled by a coyote, and a desire for sleep profound as that of the polar bear. And what a charm it is, after the day's work is over, to lie around singing the old camp songs and watching the sparks soar upwards, as though they sought to rival the stark tamaracs that seem to touch the stars!

I will endeavor to explain the personnel and duties of a survey party. The chief has absolute authority over the party, directs its movements and decides on the location of the line. The transitman, who takes charge in the absence of the chief, runs the transit and makes the plans. The leveller, aided by the rodman, takes the profile of the country. The topographer makes a map of the district, noting the distance from the line to the various geographical features in the vicinity, and also takes the slope of the ground on each side of the line. The two chainmen, rear and fore, put in stakes every hundred feet or oftener, while the picketman gives "line" for the axemen and puts in the "hubs." The number of axemen varies. In our party there were four, as well as a cook and two "packers."

An accurate idea of the country having been obtained, the transit is " set up " where the line is to start. is then run to some desirable spot ahead where a stake is driven in flush with the surface of the ground. A tack is driven in this so that, when the picket is held on the tack, the hair line of the transit cuts the centre of the picket. The instrument is then brought forward and "set up' above this stake or hub, as it is called. This operation is repeated, the transitman noting the angle turned at each hub, while the chainmen put in their stakes at every station (100 feet) and measure the distance between the The leveller and topographer come along behind them and use the stations as a guide to their work. This is called the preliminary or trial line. From it the chief decides where the final line is to be run, the object being to get the straightest possible line with the easiest possible The work on the final location line is done in much the same manner, with the exception that curves are substituted for the angles of the preliminary line. This of course makes progress slower on location.

The telegram had come at last. After a month's waiting we were to start for the Crow's Nest Pass, and that on twenty four hours' notice. The next evening I left Toronto accompanied by Wilmott Matthews, a cadet from the Royal Military College. Arriving at Montreal the morning of Dominion Day, we found that the party could not start till the following Saturday morning. The intervening days passed, as days have a habit of doing, and Saturday found us bright and early at the station.

When the bustle incident upon getting under way had subsided, we had time to examine those whom fate, or the C.P.R., had determined should be our companions for the next few months. Mr. Earle, the chief of the party, was a big, broad shouldered man, a thorough, painstaking engineer, and above all, a gentleman. Mr. Grant, the leveller, clever, full of fun, up-to-date, and, as I afterwards found, for I was his rodman, very considerate and easy to get on with. "Col." White, than whom no one can tell a better story or sing a better song, was topographer

Matthews and Bell were respectively rear chain and

After a pleasant five days' journey we reached Golden on the main line of the C P. R, where we had to wait three days for the palatial stern wheeler, Duchess. tunately for us there was a delayed Jubilee celebration the day after we arrived. Horse races, foot races, miners' races, bicycle races, and pigeon shooting followed one another with true Western rapidity. In the evening there were fireworks, a royal salute of twenty-one sticks of dynamite, and on the hillside above the town blazed forth the well-known "VR." In the town below all was excitement and hilarity. Along the bar were lined up grizzled old prospectors, lumbermen, railway men, cow punchers, commercial travellers, smooth-faced card sharpers, the omnipresent old timer in the person of a white haired negro, and a blue-eyed English "tenderfoot" with gaiters and moccasins, who leaned on both elbows, his back to the bar, and listened with a far away look to the sweet familiar strains of "Home, Sweet Home." In the next room, above the twang of the banjo and guitar and the hum of voices, could be heard the cries of the various fakirs - "red wins, try your luck again, gentlemen! Seven wins! and your money is doubled. Luck's against the bank to-night. Everybody come in, you're bound to win!"

The following morning saw us on the forward deck of the Duchess. All day long we struggled on against the current, now running on a mud bank, again backing water to get around some sharp bend, while mile by mile we left civilization behind us. Just before sunset we reached the head waters of the Columbia, Lake Windermere, and a more beautiful lake I have never seen. Before us it lay without a ripple, reflecting on its surface the colors of the surrounding hills; at the shore a sage green then a bright emerald shading off the deep green of the pine and tamarac, while above all stood, as sentinels, the dark blue snowcapped summits of the Rockies. By noon the next day we had reached the head of navigation, where the Columbia and Kootenay Rivers are joined by a short canal. we were transferred to a stage, and after an exhilarating drive through dust, mosquitoes and heat, arrived at Hanson's where we passed a sleepless night. The next morning we rattled down into Ft. Steele where we were welcomed by Mr. Caddy, the transitman, and Wood, the forechain. They had come through the pass with our

pack train and had arrived an hour before us.

Two days were spent in Steele, an exceedingly lively mining town, and then we moved out to Cranbrook. Here our troubles began. From Cranbrook to the foot of Moyie Lake is twenty-five miles, all up and down hill, and we were "soft." Moreover during the two days occupied in the trip, it persisted in raining, and by the time we had reached the foot of the lake everything was soaking wet. However, we made the best of a bad job, and soon had the ground cleared, our tents pitched and fires blazing in the It had taken us two weeks to reach our destinastoves.

tion, as it was now the 16th of July.

The country through which we had to run the line was heavily wooded, and it took us seven weeks to do twentyfour miles. Rockslides, "windfalls," beaver meadows and dense bush succeeded one another, while occasionally a rock point or hornet's nest added some excitement to our A "windfall," I might explain, is a tangle of uprooted trees lying across one another; sometimes you can walk for five or six hundred feet along the trunks without being near the ground. The beaver meadows were mostly deserted, although one or two were still inhabited and caused us some annoyance when the water became colder. No one who has never been in the bush can realize what it is like. Jack pine, small fir and spruce are all locked together in an indistinguishable mass and often one is unable to see ten feet ahead.

We had seven camps altogether. When we had worked about one-and-a-half or two miles past one camp, a new place would be chosen three or four miles further on. Before leaving for work the next morning, everybody had to roll up his dunnage and blankets, help to strike the tents and leave everything ready for the packers. Mr. Grant and I were usually lett on that day to help the packers, clear the new camp ground, pitch the tents, put up the stoves and draughting table and collect the "Rocky Mountain Feathers," i.e., spruce boughs, for our downy couches. It was no light work, and there was sure to be a howl from somebody that he had not enough boughs whereon to lay his weary body, or that a stone had been left under his bed. As though that hurt us.

The pack train, one of the most indispensable institutions of the West, deserves to be noticed. Ours consisted of twelve horses, and it required two trips to move camp. These cayuses are pastured on the meadows along the river, and on moving days are brought reluctantly up to camp. After much grunting and groaning, the pack saddles are all "cinched." Then comes the packing. Side packs of equal weight are roped on to the saddle, then the top packs, and over all a canvas cover is thrown. The "cinch rope" is produced, the "diamond hitch" thrown and then ensues a comical scene. The cayuse braces his four feet and heaves a sigh; the "off" packer places one foot against the pack and pulls or rather heaves with all his weight, the cayuse grunts and appears as if about Then the head packer, on his side, repeats the The cayuse's ribs must surely be crushed performance. thinks the uninitiated, but if, in a quarter of an hour, he happens to pass the same sad faced beast, he will find that the girth is comfortably loose. The cayuse was not born yesterday.

Our life was simple. Early to bed and early to rise was the universal law, and nine o'clock was our hour for The gong, a frying pan, was sounded; in the summer at 5.30, breakfast was at six. Then after a scramble to make up our lunches, pipes were lighted and we "hit the trail." An hour's halt was made at noon, for lunch, a smoke and a nap. The long, hot afternoon at last wore through, and at six o'clock we started home to camp. After dinner we would sit around a roaring fire, for the evenings were always chilly, smoke, talk and dream till it was time for bed.

November, however, was not conducive to such a pastoral existence. Snow was on the ground, and it is not pleasant to lie down or sit in the snow. The noon hour nap was omitted, and in its place we hugged the fire and stamped our toes. No longer did we waste wood in a camp fire, but gathered every scrap for our tents, and someone even gathered in the cook's pile; whereupon the cook grew wrathy and make nasty insinuations about our tents, and dire threats. That cook, by the way, was the laziest, most surly good-for-nothing that it has ever been my pleasure, or rather pain, to meet.

There was one thing he could do however, tell stories. One night several prospectors, who had stopped at our camp, were vieing with one another, as prospectors have a habit of doing, in entertaining us. The cook listened for a long while in silence, but at last broke forth into a tale of a mine up in Howe Pass which ran 65 per cent. in silver and 55 per cent. in gold. As I am not taking the Mathematical and Physical course, I have have never been able

to get to the bottom of that affair.

About the end of November I commenced to think of Varsity and examinations; then there loomed large on the horizon the economic problem of transportation, which was finally solved by my becoming the proud possessor of a cayuse, saddle, bridle and halter. On the fifth of December I set forth on my two hundred and twenty mile journey, and after ten days arrived in Macleod

only to learn that the train had gone out half an hour before I got there. The trip out was anything but cheerful. Rain, snow, frost and slush are my chief recollections till I reached Crow's Nest Lake. There I received a warm welcome from "Stan" Gzowski. The next morning I set out in the teeth of a howling snow storm, and it can storm in the Pass as it can storm nowhere The cayuse trotted on till we got out of the shelter of the "bluffs," but then he stopped and no amount of argument would make him go ahead. Balaam's mule, apart from the gift of speech, was not in it with my "Buck." After a fierce controversy I had to clamber off, and tow that brute against a thirty-mile-an-hour wind. That night I gave him away to one of the contractors, and the next day drove into Macleod with one of his freight teams. After waiting there two days I caught a train to Calgary and arrived in Toronto the day before Christmas, none the worse for my six months' sojourn in the mountains.

Don. A. Ross, '98.



The last regular meeting of the Women's Literary Society for the '97-'98 Term was held on Saturday night. The attendance was as usual very large. After the reading of the minutes, the President intimated that a communication had been received from the men, asking the Women's Literary Society to appoint a committee to confer with the men's committee on the subject of the proposed Dramatic Club. Miss Grace Hunter, Miss Northway and Miss Daisy Wright were chosen. A proposition in connection with "Sesame" was broached, but it was decided to leave discussion on the subject until election night A further notice of motion was brought forward and carried. This was to the effect that henceforth the curator should be chosen from the First Year, not from the Third, and that the treasurer should be a Third Year girl. Miss L. K. White moved that the College girls each contribute a small sum towards tinting the reading room walls. This discussion was taken up by Misses Patterson and Stovel, who agreed with Miss White's motion, and by Misses Kirkwood, Benson, Northway and McDougall, who thought the University Council should be asked to attend to the matter. Upon taking a vote, it was found that the majority of the girls sided with the latter speakers. Consequently the Council will be approached on the subject.

A piano duet by Miss Lang and Miss Wegg opened the programme proper. This was followed by a very lively and unique exhibition of fencing, given by some of the members of the Women's Fencing Club. In response to a determined encore, Miss Macdonald and Miss Gibbs came back and fought each other bravely. Miss Northway's scientific report was particularly interesting, and made even the unitiated wish there were a few more people who could treat in an equally bright and clever way what, in magazine reviews, usually assume a somewhat dry aspect. Miss Patterson next gave a brilliant violin solo, and then Miss Bessie Cowan was called upon to play one

of her artistically-rendered selections.

The event of the evening was the representation of W. D. Howell's "A Likely Story." Miss Preston, Miss Hughes and Miss Hurlburt in their difficult roles surprised everyone by the ease and freedom they threw into these their maiden attempts. Misses Morrison, Darling and Cleary, although being minor characters, acted their parts

in a way that left little to be desired. Indeed, if it were not a case of counting our chickens before they are hatched, we should, like the complimentary newspaper notice, predict a brilliant future for these ladies, especially for Miss Hughes and Miss Preston. Not that we mean to hint at the stage itself, but is there not to be a Dramatic Club for those specially endowed with histrionic abilities?

It was about half-past ten when the meeting broke up.

On Friday, March 4th, the girls of '98 are going to meet at luncheon in the Girls' Reading Room in University College. Subjects of interest to the year will be discussed, and a very good time is expected by all.

The nominations for the Women's Glee Club were held on Tuesday, March 1st, but the report of the meeting did not reach the editor's hand in time for publication. The Women's Literary Society will hold their annual nominations on Friday, March 4th, in Room 3 at four o'clock. The elections will be held March 12th, in the Students' Union Room.

There was no meeting of the Y.W.C.A. last week, as the University buildings were closed for Ash Wednesday.

THE LORELEI. Heinrich Heine.

I know not what it meaneth, That I so sad should be; A haunting world-old story, That clings in my memory.

The air is cool, and it darkens, The Rhine doth quietly flow; The mountain peak is gleaming In the evening after-glow.

The fairest of maids is sitting Wonderful over there. Her golden jewels blazing As she combs her golden hair.

And the comb she uses is golden; And a song as she sits sings she, That has a wonderfully Enchanting melody.

The boatman in his vessel It strikes with wildest fright; Not a look gives he to the rock-reefs, He only looks up at the height.

I think that the waves will swallow In the end both sailor and boat; And this with her 'witching singing The Lorelei has wrought.

-KERRY.

LOUISBOURG IN 1745: A REVIEW.

For the ordinary student, whether in the Public School, the Collegiate Institute or the University, Canadian history has ever been a subject with few charms. To me it has always seemed that when history is unpopular there must be something radically wrong either in the pupil or in the way in which the subject is presented, for after all, what is history but a story intelligently told, and where is the boy or the man that is not fond of a story? There can be but little doubt that in this case the fault lies with the authors, the compilers, rather, of the text-books on Canadian history. Of late years, however, many able men have flashed the search light of their historical genius on

this dark and uninviting subject, and it is now very refreshing to see the interest in Canadian history becoming more general and to find some of the finest scholars and the brightest writers in the land turning their attention in this direction.

Perhaps the latest contribution to the bibliography of Canadian History comes from the pen of Mr. George M. Wrong, the Professor of History in this University. It is a large octavo brochure of some seventy-five pages, forming the first part of Volume I. of the Second History Series in the new University of Toronto Studies. It is known to most of the students that through, the kindness of the Minister of Education, the University has undertaken to publish the best original work done by her undergraduates, graduates or faculty. Before long, it is expected, valuable monographs both in science and literature will be published. So far, however, the only accepted Studies have come from the department of history, and their recognized scientific value and literary worth are indications of the scholarship and the energy of Professor Wrong. The first series, of which the first volume has been published, while the second volume is to appear from the press shortly, consists of an annual critical review of all the historical publications of the previous year relating to Canada. The second series, of which "Louisbourg in 1745" forms the first part of Volume I., will comprise a number of historical papers that will probably be of more general interest.

"Louisbourg in 1745" is the translation of an anonymous letter written by a French inhabitant of Louisbourg, in Cape Breton, when that fortress was besieged and captured by the New England Militia and the British fleet in 1745. To no other one of her strategic points in America did France attach such importance as she did to Louisbourg, and its fall was one of the great cardinal events in the struggle between the French and English on this continent. For years the British both in Nova Scotia and New England watched with jealousy and apprehension the expensive and extensive fortifications which their rivals were erecting in Louisbourg. Early in March, 1745, they appeared before the stronghold and on June 29th it capitulated. As this anonymous letter, which Professor Wrong now publishes in English for the first time, is the only unofficial account, from a French point of view, of the siege, its historical value is evident. The writer outlines briefly the relations of the English and French in America and then, after describing the geographical position and resources of Louisbourg, gives a lively detailed account of the siege. He is not niggardly in his comments on the blunders both of the French Government and the British generals. But as Professor Wrong explains in the introduction to his translation, the letter takes a prejudiced view and exaggerates the numbers of the British who took part in the siege.

Of Professor Wrong's bright translation, which is published along with the original French, it would be difficult to speak too highly. In it there are no slavish literal renderings, no clumsy translations, foreign to the idiom of English. The story runs smoothly throughout. If any fault is to be found with the work it is that the editor too seldom makes his appearance before the curtain. Professor Wrong is too modest. In the translations of standard historical works, such as Mommsen's Rome, the less seen of the translator and editor the better. But in such a work as "Louisbourg in 1745," an anonymous letter written by an ordinary unofficial eye-witness of an event, the reader naturally asks that he may take the editor by the hand and be led safely through the maze of truth and falsehood, of exaggeration and prejudice. The modern school of common sense historians seems opposed to theorizing and arguing. They ask for the simple story. They want a history to be a pageant, not a philosophy.

But there is danger in carrying this tendency too far, and it is here that Professor Wrong's Study seems to be at fault. Of course this will be a fault in the eyes of general readers rather than of expert historical critics who are supposed to know wherein the narrative varies from the straight and narrow path of truth. University students, however, whether they be historical critics or not, may be pardoned if they feel disappointed at seeing in the volume so little of their Professor. A few notes he has given, but they are very few and very brief. In one or two instances, indeed, direct misstatements have been left unchallenged, for which there can be hardly any excuse. On page 26, for instance, the writer says Cape Breton "lies but two leagues distant from Acadia," whereas the width of the Strait of Canso is only about two miles. In two or three other instances, manifest, and the strain of other instances, manifest mistakes are made in the statement of distances. These are trivial points and probably did not escape the notice of the editor, but it is to be regretted that he did not correct them and by more numerous notes enhance the value of what is now a very valuable Study. It is to be hoped that "Louisbourg in 1745" will prove the first of a long series of able Studies in Canadian History which will bring credit not only on the editor, Professor Wrong, but on the University which has undertaken their publication.

BRIAN BORU.

YE GREATE LITTE MEETINGE.

I have now helde my clerkshippe in ys college for nigh foure yeares, and ever have I learned newe thinges; and ye matter whereof I now write is ye neweste. And, for yat it beeth of scolaires, and ye subjecte beeth treated in ye true philosophical manere of anciente sages, I may averre yat he will not altogether flinge hys houre away who doth well peruse it. Ye matter hadde hys incepcion seven nights since in ye congregation of younge scolaires which is called ye "Litte," at which time one stoute wighte yclepte Kilgoure did give notice yat he woulde at ye nexte meetinge maken motion yat "Ys Societie regardeth ye fighte for ye possession of ye doore at ye annual elections of ye Societie as opposed to ye beste interests of ye Societe, and yat ye Presidente be instructed to close ye polling boothe at ye election ys yeare, if at any time costruction be offered to voters, until swich obstruction be removed," whereat some did scoffe, and some did cheere, and ye moste fell into silence and deepe thoughte. Now toward ye second and third dayes of ye weeke followinge, I did mark manie younge scolaires who were erstwhile wonte to diligentlie minde their bookes, atalkinge to their fellowes in corners, exhortinge 'em wi' greate mysterie and secrecie; and when another would approach uninvited they would go everyone about his business, as if they had said naughte at all. At laste I didde lose alle patience, and didde accoste one of ye sayde wights, askinge him what ye matter was. He didde straightway demand if I was "alle right," and I didde craftile reply yat I was. Whereupon he didde smirke like ye manne in ye olde farce, and didde exclaim wi' greate inwarde joye yat "some-thinge would falle nexte Friday nighte." I was no little afeared in my soule, callinge to minde how yat ye secret traitours didde plotte ye deathe of Cæsar. But I dissemblinge a cheerful countenance, he didde thereto saye: "Mayhap we will not doe a thinge to 'em!" Whereat I was again free of apprehension (albeit, I have later learned yat ys beeth a sayinge which meaneth contrarywise).

Nowe, ye nighte appointed, I cominge somedeal tardilie, I hadde trouble enow to finde me a stoole. For ye three score of aforetime were now three hundred, and ye voyse of em was like ye roaringe of ten thousande

bulles of Bashan! Ye discourse (whereof I hearde little enow) wente upon ye scrappe, and verilie it was hotte! Yat Kilgoure aforesayde didde maintaine yat it was degradinge and righte lowe and wicked-or wordes of like importe,—whereat I was no little shame-faced, havinge been in two scrappes (but feelinge thereafter no whit ye baser). And thereto I didde addresse me to a wighte who had eke so foughten, and wi' us. But he didde solemplie shake hys heade, and saye yat principle told him to vote wi' ye motione against ye scrappe! Marvellinge greatlie, I turned me to a certaine perte younge foppe, one who hadde ever scorned ye low nature of ye matter in question, holdinge yat a scrappe was but ye sporte of boores; and, I demandinge of him howe he woulde vote, he sayde yat any manne who woulde vote against ye scrappe was but a milksoppe and a molliecoddle, and had no principle thereto! Albeit I marvelled, I did eke no little rejoyce yat principle beeth now so greate a thinge in our College, I havinge whilome believed yat herebefore it was verilie intereste!

Now, if I mixe ye order of ye orations in my tellinge thereof, it lieth, soothe to saye, at ye doore of ye oratours; for alle did speaken so well yat I cannot be in minde to saye whilk was first or whilk was laste. But one Groves did seconde ye greate motion, battlinge manfullie against ye pandemonium of ye hostile ones. Then uprose a huge cry of "Question!" But ye presidente (in name Younge, but in counsel olde) did saye yat he greatlie feared ye nonabidaunce by ye motion, even though it should seeme goode to ye greater number. But one, a mightie man of valour, highte Munroe, didde courteouslie assure him he had naughte to feare! (I didde looke to see if he was wearing hys hatte, but trulie he was not.) Another twain of wightes, McFarlane and Shotwelle, did also speake in ye same straine, tellinge their sorrowe yat any shoulde thinke of rebellinge against God given authoritie (yat is, ye power of ye other side), but they were answered never a worde. One of College donnes, Rosse by nomination, did gentlie make remarke — concerning ye propositione to bringe in ye town constables (by some mooted about this time)—yat he hadde hearde one of ye same piouslie asseverate yat not for an hundred pounds woulde he enter ye scrappe. (Whilk I cannot doubte to be ye truthe, for town constables be no greate thinges, witnesse ye nightes of Hallowmasse in ye olde time.) About ys time didde rise MacDougall, one of ye Celtic tribe, whom I have oft behelde slayinge men of twice his bulke in yat same scrappe of whiche they argued; but he didde say yat alle goode leeches didde condemne it, and he could upholde it no more for vat resoun. Verilie he too beeth moved by principle, as doubtless were manie who spoke for it, albeit they had never scrapped in their lives. Now didde make oration Carsoune, a verie Ulysses for crafte and cunninge counsel, and he uttered moche scorne at ye other side, speakinge of their defeates aforetime (whereat they didde finelie squirme), and defyinge 'em to battle wi' haughtie wordes. Then answered him Martyn, who beeth certes his equal in wisdome-politicale, and then then, too, didde hys opponents squirme. One Rosse (ye sonne of hys father) didde now speake skilful wordes, likeninge ye scrappe to ye noble game of footballe, and thereby winninge a greate applause; and followinge him uprose Mitchell, of ye tribe of sophomores, who didde girde loudlie at ye mover of ye motion, askinge him what he knewe of a scrappe, havinge never beheld one? Whereat it came oute yat ye same mover had been right valorous in ye last scrappe, and Mitchell, beinge yet of tender years in his clerkeshippe, had not himself witnessed one of ye same. But he didde aske pardoune right manfullie, and I doubte not was ye better for hys mistake. Then came ye oration of Alexander, a David in ye overthrowinge of Goliathes (albeit ye stupid giantes knowe not when they be overthrown), and he did slinge manie smoothe and piercinge

pebbles of rhetorik at ye enemie; and, soothe to says, hys voyce was as huskie as hys followinge when he ended. Now spake Hinch, who, wi' full solempne pauses betwixt his words, did lay down ye lawe and make mocke over hys opponents in ye beste style, goodlie to his friends and hateful to swich as love him not. And ye David, afore-sayde, had fain drunke his gore before alle ye congregation, but ye presidente brought 'em bothe finalie to calmnesse. Yet ye best of alle ye greate orations was yat of McKay of ye junion clanne. He didde showe howe ye scrappe beeth naughte literarie, but rather a hindraunce to ye conducte of ye Societie in choosinge ye beste men to maintain it, and how yat we shoulde growe oute of swich olde cus-One, Fairchilde, a sophomore, didde bringe ye argument to a close, averring yat ye worlde outside didde but mocke us for our childishness, and lacke of culture. Then wi' greate tumulte didde ye congregation come to a vote; and when swich as loved not ye scrappe founde they were well nigh in number two to one, ye may well guess yat ye noyse of handes and feete, voyces and clubbes was one not soon to be forgot. They did roar "Varsitie!" till ye lights flickered amain. But one of ye defeated by craftilie votinge wi' ye victors did obtain a reconsideration, and alle who love fightings will not readilie miss ye next meetinge. Albeit ye matter of choosinge ye nomination Boarde of VARSITIE was yet to come; and trulie herein were the conquerors overthrowne down wi' a dolorous sounde and a heavie thudde to saye they laughe beste who laughe loude! For these being named—Hobbes, Martyn, Beattie, Munroe, Shotwelle, McFarlane (who withdrew), Carsoune, Perkins, and Allen (of ye Schoole),-Hobbs, Beatty, Carsoune and Perkins, were chosen, they beinge all stoute champions of And if it be not ye partie erstwhile vanquished. scurvie of me so to saye ye six shillings whilk everie man shalle paye if he vote in an election didde seeme to cool ye ardour of manie of ye victors; for to seventy and seven they had but seven and forty! trowe there was no greate cheere among 'em when ys they hearde. But ye others did leape upon stooles and shoute wi' joye till their gullets were as if they had swallowed oyster shells!

Thus were ye honours of ye night divided. Ye firste gunnes—nay ye first broad-sides have been exploded; and everie wighte who joyes in strife will doe righte wiselie to join in wi' his fellowes and make ye battle one that future years will ever holde in minde.

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HE general elections for the Legislative Assembly of Ontario have come and gone. After a short, sharp campaign, the men who are to govern the province, and incidentally the Provincial University, have been duly chosen by the people. As far as we are concerned, as an undergraduate body, the election just passed marks an epoch in our history. For the first time we have had an opportunity of taking an active part in the campaign right here in Toronto. It is true that registration of manhood suffrage voters took place in the election of four years ago. But that election was held in the end of June when weor to be more exact the undergraduates of that time-were scattered all over the country. The present occasion is the first on which the students, as a body, have been recognized by the political parties as an important factor to be considered in the contest. And the way we were courted by both parties might tickle our vanity not a little, were it not for a lingering suspicion in our hearts that our own inherent worth was not the sole reason of the strong attraction for us developed so suddenly by the candidates. At the "student" meetings held by both sides, many of our fellows displayed powers of oratory of a high order and showed that they were ready upon very short notice to succeed the Hardy's and Whitney's of to-day. It is no vain boast to say that there exists in the province no body of electors of the same size better able to vote intelligently on public questions.

The University has a strong claim on the support of the Legislatur, and all the graduates, undergraduates and friends of our Alma Mater should see to it that that claim is properly recognized. We have the necessary influence, if rightly directed, to accomplish much. The last Legislature did something for us, but our need is still great, and we have no other source to look to for help in our present circumstances. We hope earnestly that the Philistine may not be too much in evidence in the new Assembly, and that our University may receive all the attention and aid which she deserves.

And this Provincial campaign reminds us that our own Literary Society elections, for which we are celebrated wherever we are known, are approaching very rapidly. And if we can judge by the animation and excitement with which the subject is discussed on all hands, we may predict a campaign that will long be memorable for its intensity. Recent events show that the war cloud is growing darker and heavier every day, and that it is bound to burst in fury ere many suns have set. Already the doughty fighters of '95 and '96 are buckling on their armor for the fray, and by their eager expectancy they remind one forcibly of the war horse of the old Hebrew poet "that smelleth the battle afar off." There was never such a bright prospect at this early date—at least not in our time—of a desperate struggle for supremacy in the student affairs of our University. The Literary Society is to be congratulated on the increased interest in its affairs, and the far more tangible advantage of a probable increase in the weight of its money-

But there are dangers in the heat and excitement of such an election against which we cannot be too vigorously on our guard. It is very easy when the blood is warm to say things that might better be left unsaid. It is very easy to see the possibility of gaining an apparent advantage over our opponents by a trick or a subterfuge that we would scorn to use in our ordinary concerns of life. An election like the prospective one, if properly conducted, ought to be a splendid training for all who enter into it. It is, therefore, the individual duty of every man, for his own sake and the sake of his party, to do nothing that will not bear the strictest scrutiny.

We are not now pounding a man of straw, for objectionable tendencies have shown themselves in our former contests. And they are by no means peculiar to us in Toronto. President David Starr Jordan, of Stanford University, in a recent address to his students, warned them against these same evils in their student life. In his introductory sentences he made use of these manly words, which we cannot ponder too seriously: "I am no ascetic; I believe in the exuberance and joy of youth. I was a boy once, and I can remember when, and so long as I live I shall hope to be reckoned with the boys. I am not growing old very fast. When I hear men talking of Old Jordan, I know that they mean the river and not me. But then there is one truth that has been very much impressed upon my mind by the years that I have seen. It is that the strong man is the gentleman. The man who moves the world is the man who is not tainted by the world's corrosion. I believe that virtue belongs to the young and the strong; not exclusively to the prig, the milksop or the invalid. It is the mission of the University to bring good

out of the abundance of life. The man we dream of as the Stanford man will stand up against vulgarity, rowdyism and mean temptation as he stands up against the bold dash of his opponents' rush line. Now I am going to say some things to you that I would not let anyone else say of you." Among the things President Jordan said were the following observations on student politics—and these we consider of special importance to us just now: "I am sorry to see the growth of college politics. It is poor stuff-'the pinchbeck imitation of a pewter original,' President White used to call it. And as students are more reckless than grown men, doing dishonorable things because they have not experienced the consequences of transgression, so are their politics, at their liveliest, more corrupt than those of professional politicians. From the ranks of college politics, political bosses are too often recruited."

If these statements are just, and we believe they are, they throw a great responsibility upon every man who takes part in our coming elections. We are not now contending against secret party caucuses, personal canvassing, nor any other legitimate features of an election. Nor do we charge the students generally with deliberately resorting to corrupt methods. Far be it from us to think any such thing. But we do believe that thoughtlessness often leads men into devious ways at such times as these, and that a note of warning such as that sounded by President Jordan, may not be without its effect.

Our far-famed annual election is one of the glories of Toronto—one of the things which every graduate loves to look back upon with pride and pleasure. We cannot afford to let this grand old institution degenerate by any imitation of Tammany methods. Let us keep it pure and clean. Let every man feel that it is nobler to lose, fighting fairly, than to win by questionable means. If this were done by all the men, it would not detract one iota from the heated enthusiasm of the campaign. But in the better feeling, greater confidence and friendlier relations between men and parties, the gain would be an hundredfold.

VARSITY CONCERT.

As probably most of the students know already there is a concert to be given on the seventh of March in the Massey Hall under the auspices of the Various Musical Organizations which find their home about the university. Varsity has seen the subscribers' list and judging from the names at the head of it, it will be an entertainment which no loyal student will fail to patronize.

The feature about the concert which promises to draw the music loving public of Toronto, consists in the fact that the Misses Sutro will appear; anyone who has ever heard these "ensemble pianists" wishes to do so again.

Only too often a concert troupe which boasts a "star" or two is very weakly assisted. But this is not case here. The University Glee Club, the College of Music Ladies' Mandolin and Guitar Club and Mr. George Smedley will be on hand. In addition to those already enumerated Mr. Bruce Bradley, tenor, and last, but by no means least, the University Banjo, Mandolin and Guitar Club will also be present.

It is sincerely to be hoped that, from the pains which are being taken to make this concert a success, the management will be greeted with a bumper house on the evening of March the seventh. In order to make the concert a success the students ought to turn out in a body.

It may be added that Mr. J. W. R Meredith or indeed any of the committee will be glad upon application to furnish any information respecting the concert.

NATURAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

At the meeting of the Natural Science Association held in the Biological Lecture Room on Wednesday Feb. 16, two more names were added to the list of eminent men whose life and works have come under the consideration of the Association during the year. These two were Drummond and Romanes.

Mr. W. H. Thompson, 'oo, took up the principal features of the character of Drummond and many of the events with which he was connected in his short life of 46 years. He was born at Stirling in 1851, and in his early years numbered among his acquaintances, Robert Louis Stevenson and Ian MacLaren.

The authors whom he favored most and who helped to mould his character were: Ruskin, Emerson, Channing, Robertson and George Eliot. He was not very successful as a scientist. His ability lay rather in the classification of the opinions of men than in the direction of original investigation.

He did much to bring about a reconciliation between religion and science. Two of his greatest works "The Natural Law in the Spiritual World" and "The Ascent of Man," the former published in 1883, the latter in 1893, were along this line. In connection with Moody he did a good deal of evangelistic work, both in the old country and in the United States. In his theory of evolution altruism or self-sacrifice appears as a greater factor than in any other works on the same subject.

He was a great student of human nature especially of "the boy" which is evidenced by the fact that he was the founder of "The Boys' Brigade."

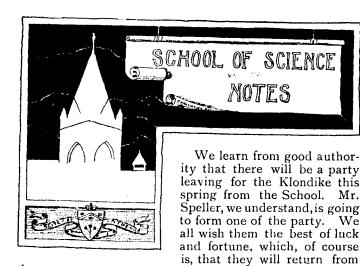
He died at Tunbridge Wells, March 11, 1897, and all the world mourned the loss of one who was kind, amiable and versatile, widely-known and as widely honored and respected.

Mr. M. D. McKichan, '98, took up the life and works of Romanes. Romanes is one of Canada's illustrious sons. He was born at Kingston in 1848. One of his greatest characteristics was his unwearied search for truth. A couple of summers spent at Heidelberg gave him a taste for science. This taste received a great impulse at Cambridge where he studied Physiology under Dr. Michael Foster. He was a very careful experimenter. He made an extensive study of the nervous system in Medusae and found that it was influenced by much the same causes as those that effect higher forms.

His ability is shown in the highest degree in his masterly treatment of Biological Problems and the criticism of the various theories of the day. These criticisms are largely embodied in two of his works "Darwin and After Darwin" in three volumes and "Weisomannism." He wrote many magazine articles of a similar nature. He

died in 1894 at the early age of 46 years.

C. M. Fraser, 98, Secy.



that country laden with the yellow metal.

Finch, who had to give up his year on account of ill-health, paid us a friendly visit on Friday. We hope he may be with us again next year, so that Tommy will have some company in that little corner.

One of the prospecting class, while working in the assaying laboratory, saw what he thought was a silver bead lying on the floor and stooped to pick it up; but strange to say he could not get hold of it. Nevertheless he kept on for over ten minutes, using scoops and pincers, and then discovered that the supposed bead was a drop of mercury.

The election of officers to the executive of the Athletic Association took place on Friday. W. H. Boyd, representing the fourth year, and C. McMichael, the third year, were elected by acclamation. In the first year two men were nominated, G. A. Hunt and J. Gray, both popular men, and the favor was very evenly divided. The ballots were cast at the noon hour, and from five o'clock till halfpast. Mr. Gray was finally elected by a majority of six.

The 2 p.m. lecture to the third year on Micklelurgy on Thursday was begun with some lantern slides. The first of these to be thrown on the screen was a clock with the hands pointing at five minutes after two. The lecturer asked us if we knew what this was and what it meant, and on our answering in the affirmative, said that it was all right then, but that he had thought those who came wandering in any time between two and a quarter past, did not.

It has been suggested that a new law, which will apply to all members and students of the School, be framed to read as follows: That any student who has the pleasure at any time of showing any of his lady friends through the building shall be compelled to introduce and explain to them the mysteries of the drafting rooms. And in the event of his failing to perform this duty, he shall be tried by a jury of his peers on the charge of treason to his fellow students. It is hardly necessary to say anything in sup port of this as a new addition to our code of laws and customs. Everyone no doubt sees the benefit that the students would receive. Last week Yates of the second year committed this grave offence, in having shown two charming young ladies through the school, leaving out the most important and interesting part, the drafting rooms.

J. S. Dobie, B.A.Sc., and F. J. Robinson, '95 grad of the School, have obtained the degree of O.L.S., having successfully passed the recent examinations. We all have much pleasure in heartily congratulating them.

THE MERCHANT-MEN.

The lawn is shorn and o'er the grass,
Burnt and crisp in the sun,
I watch the insect wings that pass,—
Mariners every one.
Oars that strike, paddles that beat,
In the still abysses the shrubs between,
Where the red verbenas glow in the heat;—
Ports of call, I ween.

How deep it is from wharves sheer down,
Fathoms and fathoms below!
From pansy petals cream and brown,
Asters that glisten as snow!
Here they sail, pass and hail,
In the swirl of tides with the reefs a-lee;
And the hoarded gold in the waxen bale
Is the wealth of all the sea.

JAMES T. SHOTWELL.

EQUALITY.

In a small room on the eleventh story of a great daily newspaper building sat the editor of probably the most influential journal in the country. His position as editor of this paper was one of great honor and as great responsibility; for to him had been delegated by some higher power the mission of moulding to a great degree the opinions of a nation. By an editorial from his pen war could be precipitated or peace declared; and in a great measure governments stood or fell according to the pleasure of his sweet will.

Below him in the basement, begrimed with oil, was the chief engineer of the intricate machinery that ran the enormous presses. The responsibility of his position in his own eyes was great. "For how can my master's opinions be placed before the world unless I am here?" he thought.

Everything, however, ran smoothly and his responsibility was swallowed up in the light-heartedness of an even life. He whistled as he went about his engines and presses, putting a drop of oil here and tightening a bolt there. Although his responsibility seemed to him great, he was happy.

As the editor handed the last page of "copy" to the "devil" he heaved a sigh of relief which was but momentary, however, for there flashed on his mind the picture of his wife lying at home very ill. He at once hurried away and with a troubled mind arrived at his home to find that she was no better. She was sick, very sick, and the husband's (not the editor's) heart was nearly breaking. Sadness was everywhere, and he was in the midst of that sadness.

The engineer stopped the presses as the last sheet of that immense edition came from the huge rollers, and soon his night work was over. He, too, started for home and arrived there to find his little cottage warm and cosy. He found awaiting him an inviting supper prepared by his thoughtful wife. He ate his supper and went to bed to sleep.

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Just for a day I fled the town,
The rout, the worry and the din,
The crowded mart, the gilded sin,
And speech of purse proud rogue and clown.

For one brief day that cloudless sky,

The trees, the flowers, were my delight;

The things that pleased my childish sight
Swam once again into my eye.

I found a solace in the wind,
The unseen organ of the world,
Dispensing music that was whirl'd
O'er Iran's plains time out of mind.

The same tempestuous melodies,
And dulcet dirges of no tone
That seemed supernal wrath or groan
To Goths afoot for southern seas.

Grown hard with city sleights and moil, I learned to humbly bow once more Upon old Nature's temple floor, The dear brown earth, the kindly soil.

I felt the peace which Nature gives
To him who contemplates her face,
Who metes by her all time and space,
The littleness in which he lives.

For what of splendor or of fame
Can vaunt itself beneath the sun?
The race of myriads is run,
But Nature's face is e'er the same.

The secret craft of Memphian priest,
The grace of Athens, thews of Rome,
Sidonian triremes turning home,
The mellow wonder of the East.

Who shall see them restored again?
The memory of their pride and shame
Held by the learned few, their name
Strange to the mass of modern men!

Along the great white roads of Time, In spite of pomp and sneering lust, Life's caravan is blown to dust, And only Nature moves sublime.

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In ever-shifting golds and grays, In sombreness or brilliancy, In rigorous fatuity, Across a universe of days.

To worship her, the calm, the true,
To see her beauties come and go,
In this, and this alone, we know
Whole-heartedness, relief from rue.

Sadly inane appears the strife
Urged on by human greed and hate;
There come to those who watch and wait
Previsions of eternal life.

WILLIAM T. ALLISON.

STUDENTS TO PRESENT A PLAY.

MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM PROPOSED.

Two weeks ago the Literary Society appointed a committee to look after the Hallowe'en demonstration next year. The committee, which consists of the following members: President Loudon, Professors Alexander, Hutton and Ramsay Wright, Messrs. G. Black, W. H. Alexander, J. H. Fisher, E. N. Armour, T. A. Russell, G. W. Ross, J. R. Meredith, J. R. Bone, F. D. McEntee, W. F. MacKay, A. N. W. Clare, G. F. Kay, J. J. Gibson, J. Little, N. T. Johnson, R. Telford, E. H. Malcolm, Adams, Carson and Lucas, met last week and appointed Mr. F. D. McEntee chairman, and Mr. W. F. MacKay secretary.

The Woman's Literary Society, at its meeting last Saturday evening, appointed Misses Hunter, Northway and Hughes a committee to consider the advisibility of assisting in this undertaking. Although the committee has not as yet finally decided, the probability is that "A Midsummer Night's Dream" will be the play presented. Estimates are being prepared of the probable cost which the project will entail a competent instructor will have to be engaged and it is altogether likely that the costumes will be ordered from New York.

In regard to the selection of a cast, the committee decided to invite all students who desire to take part and are willing to give up their time to it to send their names to the secretary at once. The cast will then be selected from these by the instructor, so that a few rehearsals may take place before the end of this term.

The plan is meeting with an enthusiastic reception on all hands and several names of those who wish to participate have already been received, so that, if the good will of the student body is any criterion, the project is sure to

be an unqualified success.

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EDUCATION DEPARTMENT CALENDAR

1. Applications for examination for Specialist certificates other than Commercial, to De-

certificates other than Commercial, to Department, due.

12. Annual Meeting of the Ontario Educational Association at Toronto.

25. Last day for receiving applications for examination of candidates not in attendance at the Ontario Normal College.

28. Art School examinations begin.

2. Examinations for Specialists' certificates (except Commercial) at the University of To-

ronto, begin.

Notice by candidates for the High School Entrance and Public School Leaving Examina-

tions, to Inspectors, due.

Arbor Day.

Notice by candidates for the High School, forms I., III. and IV., University Matriculation and Commercial Specialist Examination to Inspect of the Commercial Specialist Examination to Inspectors and Property and Property of the Commercial Specialist Examination to Inspectors and Property a minations, to Inspectors, due.

Application for Kindergarten Examinations

to Inspectors, due.
25. Examination at Ontario Normal College,

25. Examination at Ontario Normal Conege,
Hamilton, begins.
26. Inspectors to report number of candidates for the High School forms, University Matricu-lation and Commercial Specialist Examinations to Department.

31. Close of session of Ontario Normal College.

23. Kindergarten Examinations at Hamilton,

London, Ottawa and Toronto, begin.
28. High School Entrance Examinations begin.
Public School Leaving Examinations begin.

High School Examinations, Form I., begin.
 High School Form II. and Commercial Specialist Examinations begin.
 High School Forms III. and IV. Examina-

tions begin.

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#### CORRIDOR CULLINGS.

Two weeks more, and then the great and only elections!

John Hobbs and Burris Gahan visited London this week.

A large number of fellows left to vote at home, and many others voted in the

Tommy Laidlaw retired for a short time this week to his Sabine farm at Brampton.

Fred Cleland went on the warpath in North Grey for a few days before the election.

G. M. Murray spent a few days last week in Strathroy visiting his parents -and his polling booth.

the Harbord Street Collegiate pupils up the rugged path of knowledge for Year Book: "There are faults, both of about a week.

Come to the Lit to-morrow night if you want some fun. The battle is waxing hotter and hotter. Every man ought to take a hand.

Prof. Squair has been unable to Torontonensis. lecture this week owing to a slight indisposition. Mr. Cameron has not yet returned, and M. de Champ is the sole remaining representative of the French staff for this week.

A freshman, whose name we withhold out of consideration for his family, Made them with the fur side inside; while taking part in a debate recently, Made them with the skin s de outside;

## THE VARSITY.

is reported to have said, in the fervor He, to get the warm side inside, of his impassioned eloquence, that a Put the inside skin side outside; certain event occurred "every ten He, to get the cold side outside, years annually."

The Class of '98 is reminded again that the last day for sitting for the graduating photograph is March 15th. Since the class is once more "one and indivisible now and forever," it is desirable that every member should be in the group, and should sit as early as possible.

Several young ladies have been making life studies at the stairs by the bursar's office, making the old dragon a prominent feature in their sketches. Many of the fellows have been hanging around the spot, some of them waiting for their turn to pose, but so far they have not been invited.

At the request of the class of '98, J. T. Shotwell, '98, has been helping we publish the following extract from the report of the Editorial Board of the omission and commission, which would be wanting if your Board had had more time. It is a matter of much regret with your Board that the sensitiveness of any one has been wounded by anything which appeared in the pages of

> This funny parody on Longfellow's Hiawatha, is about twenty years old. The author is unknown, but whoever he is, he has a whimsical humor: He killed the noble Mudjokivis, With the skin he made him mittens,

Put the warm side fur side inside. That's why he put the fur side inside, Why he put the skin side outside, Why he turned them inside outside.

Toronto's delegation to Cleveland of over 120 arrived home on Monday night. Everyone who attended the conference returned delighted. Every moment of the time was indeed pleasant, and fraught with spiritual blessing and power. Never in the world's history was such an immense student missionary gathering held. Besides a number who did not register, the secretary's books showed the names of 2,214 regular delegates, of whom 1,717 were students, representing 458 different colleges, 106 college presidents and members of Faculty, 89 returned missionaries, 83 mission board secretaries, representing 71 different boards; 219 secretaries of Y.M.C A., editors of religious publications, pastors and official representatives of Young People's Societies. The quiet, purposeful enthusiasm manifested throughout bade fair for the full realization of the movement's watchword, "The Evangelization of the World in this Generation."

Indoor baseball practice has commenced at the University of Chicago, and a larger number of candidates than ever have reported. All must undergo both mental and physical examinations.

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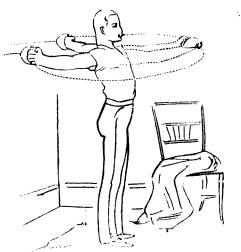
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