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THE VARSITY

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Editorial Comments.



THE election by acclamation of all the officers of the Literary and Scientific Society is an event almost without precedent in the history of the Society; nor is it less unexpected than unprecedented. The Society is thus confronted with a condition of things with which it has never before had to deal and one in which there may be considerable danger to its welfare. It is to the annual elections that the members have looked for the payment of the fees into the treasury. So implicit has been the faith in this means of collection that every member, active or inactive, has always postponed paying his fee until that time; any one who paid before then was generally considered to have done so for effect or with some ulterior object in view. This year there will be no election and none of the attendant excitement that has given to the working members an opportunity, and to the less active a desire, to contribute their dues to the Treasury. Further, a large number of the members have been disenfranchised; the principle of taxation with representation will of course prevail, and the virtually ousted members will pay no fees and there will be no reason for interested politicians to do it for them. It is therefore feared that, when the outstanding debts are paid off, there will be no surplus wherewith to begin the new year, and that thereby the work of the Society may be hampered and its usefulness lessened, neither of which is desirable nor expedient. What is to be done? The answer is easy; the duty of every man is plain. Every member should pay his fee, elections or no elections, and should do so at once. The money is needed and the members must supply it. A considerable number paid last Friday night; if all who were present then and who were so enthusiastic in cheering their friends will now show their loyalty in a tangible manner there will be no deficit this year and a good round sum will be placed to the credit of the Society. This latter will of course be smaller than in previous years, and circumstances may necessitate the payment of fees early next fall. If this should happen, the absence of an election will not be an unmixed evil. In fact the Society may perhaps have needed just such an event to bring it to its senses, and if the members but profit by the experience of the year and the lessons that may be learned by what has taken place lately there are good grounds for hoping that better things are in store.

The gentlemen whose good fortune it was to be elected by acclamation to offices in the Literary Society are to be congratulated on having been thus honored by the undergraduates. To be a member of the General Committee of the Society is indeed an honor, and, moreover, one that can be obtained only once during one's undergraduate career, and is thus the more highly to be prized. The committee elected to serve next year is a fair one; some of its members are better than others; in the words of the song: "there are some that are good and some that are not." But on the whole it can be said that the new committee is composed of energetic and fairly representative men. Of the newly-elected President, Mr. H. E. Irwin, B.A., we know nothing personally, but if the words of his friends are an indication of his ability and fitness for the position we have no doubt but that in him the Society will have an excellent President. To the retiring President,

who has been untiring in his attention to the duties of his office, and who has shown himself so well worthy of the confidence reposed in him, and to the other members of the outgoing committee who have worked so well in the interest of the Society, THE VARSITY offers the thanks of the entire student body. May the new one deserve the same at the end of its term as does the old!

UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS.

A university may acquire a name for itself by its maintenance of a high standard of examinations, the merits of the graduates who year by year leave its halls, the name of the various members of the faculties as successful teachers, and last, though by no means least, the contributions to science and literature of its undergraduates, its graduates and its staff. Taking the University of Toronto as the example most worthy of our attention, no one will for a moment deny but that she holds a foremost place among her kind in America; she requires a high standard throughout the entire course in every department; her graduates take the highest places in their pursuit of post graduate work at other universities. She has among her faculty those whose names are quoted as authorities in science and in literature, nor are they lacking in original research—the great lack is an official publication by the university, in which the results of the work of the members of the university might be made public. In it the decisions of the Senate and other official announcements could be made. In fact there are so many things of an official nature alone that the matter necessary for a publication of some size, be it Bulletin, Gazette or Review—the name is immaterial—is already assured.

Then so far as material of a more permanent nature, there are so many societies in connection with the university that these should be able to contribute something of value to the columns of the proposed publication. There are seminaries connected with the different departments of study and the various laboratories; it is but natural to expect that from the papers of the one and the researches of the other that one article at least might be of permanent value. Papers have been read before the Modern Language Club, and afterwards published in the columns of THE VARSITY, which are not unworthy of publication. Then there are the Engineering Society, the Natural Science Association, the Mathematical Society, the Medical Society, and the Pathological Society. Papers have been read before every one of these which many would like to have in some permanent form, while at present all they have, if they were fortunate enough to hear them, is a remembrance of what was read. Take, for example, the paper read but lately by Professor Baker before the Mathematical Society. It has been most justly praised; those who heard it would like to have it in print, and many who did not would gladly obtain it were it possible. What becomes of the essays of the successful competitors for the Frederick Wyld Prize and the Ramsay Scholarship, or the thesis of the candidates for the degree of M.A.? No one sees these but the writers and the examiners, and every one of these, unless the examination is a sham, ought to be worthy of publication. Where can one find a record of the papers read before the Pathological Society which many a medical graduate of Toronto would be glad to possess? It has been stated in this connection that a member of the faculty has made a discovery which will add lustre to his name—one who to-day is recognized

as an authority in the scientific centres of Europe and America—but the announcement of his discovery will in all likelihood be made in some journal which may not be taken in the University Library. It is just the same to day as when the late Professor Young solved the long vexed question of the quintic equation; his solution was given to the world in a journal published by Johns Hopkins University. Should such a state of affairs exist any longer? So long as matters remain as they are the University fails to secure that place which is its by right among other universities which have some official publication, and with that place the honor which her sons would gladly help her win and maintain if only she would afford them the means of giving to the world under her patronage the results of their labor.

Consider this question from another standpoint. The university increases its usefulness in proportion to the extent of its library in the matter of journals, reviews, magazines and periodicals of all sorts which are available to all connected with the university. As a rule the funds available will not permit the authorities to get all that are desirable. Many of these could be secured by a system of exchanges, which would more than repay the expense involved in the publication of a University Gazette. Such a course would enable the students and staff to learn what was being done in other institutions of learning and *vice versa*, would let others see what the University of Toronto was doing, and enable her to take her stand more worthily among the universities of the world.

The need of such a publication has never been felt more than at present. What systematic public and official acknowledgment has been made of the many gifts to the University since the disaster of Feb. 14, 1890? These would of themselves supply more material than would fill several issues of THE VARSITY. Many would like to read the letters of condolence or offers of gifts which have been received during the past year. The chances are that they will not have the opportunity.

No one, after a little thought, will deny the need of some such publication. How then can it be brought about? An effort was made last year to conduct a University Review. This was an ambitious attempt, but too much for a few to undertake. It was not too ambitious in comparison with the place the University holds had the Review been issued under its auspices. It might have been available as it was, had the authorities agreed to take say 500 copies of each issue to use as exchanges. Such an action would have sustained the Review, and at the same time brought to the University some of the ends desired. If the University is not disposed to do this it might issue a monthly circular similar to those of Johns Hopkins University, which are usually of sixteen pages, much the same in size as THE VARSITY. Such a paper would probably cost for ten issues of 1,000 copies about \$500, which would be offset to some extent by subscriptions, and when the value of exchanges is taken into account, instead of being a loss there would be a decided gain to the University. There can be no doubt that such an expenditure would be advantageous. Many societies at home and abroad have sent us valuable gifts. What can be sent them in return so that we may have these benefits continued, and show in some tangible way our appreciation of their kindness? Practically nothing. The only thing that remains to be done is to make a beginning; it cannot fail. Experience elsewhere shows that its success is assured. Knox College, with a constituency which ought not to be anything like so large as that of the University, supports a monthly and pays its editor a salary. It has succeeded; why should not we do as well? By going carefully and surely it can be done. Who can say but what such a beginning might not be the foundation of a university press similar to those at Oxford and Cambridge? The day is coming when this ought to be the case. We call the attention of all those interested in this matter in the hope that something may be done to advance so necessary and worthy an enterprise.

ROCK OF AGES.

"Rock of Ages cleft for me
Let me hide myself in Thee."
Sang a child the liveliest day,
In a joyous, thoughtless way;
Sang and recked not of the prayer
Uttered in her childish glee;
Sang without a thought of care,
"Rock of Ages cleft for me."

"Nothing in my hands I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling."
Sang a maid with heart opprest;
Sighing, sobbing to be blest.
Sang when days were dark and drear,
On Life's gloom-o'ershadowed sea;
Sang though filled with doubt and fear,
"Rock of Ages cleft for me."

"While I draw this fleeting breath
When mine eyelids close in death;"
Sang a mother, near the goal
Of each weary, waiting soul;
Sang (and smiled at sorrows past)
"Let me hide myself in Thee,
I am nearing home at last
Rock of Ages cleft for me."

EDMUND YORK.

GERMAN STUDENT LIFE.

II.



As a rule the German student does not spend the whole of his undergraduate days at one university. There is free trade between the German universities. A man attends a couple of semesters at Berlin. A professor at Leipsic, we will say, has a great reputation in some specialty, and the student wishes to study under him for a time. In order to effect a transfer he requires only to get from the university secretary an "honorably dismissal," (*Abgangszeugniss*). He takes this to the secretary at Leipsic and pays a small fee. He then has all the university privileges at Leipsic. He can pass from Leipsic to another university at the end of a semester if he wishes, and so on. The process of changing from one university to another is known as *umsatteln*—changing saddles.

But the question at once arises, what bearing will these changes have upon his getting a degree? A student must have attended lectures for a certain number of semesters before he can be admitted to examination for a degree. When he wishes to be examined, he prepares what is known as a *curriculum vitæ*, which is, in fact, a complete sketch of his life as a student. He names the schools he has attended and the studies he has pursued. The university lectures follow and the *Anmeldungs Buch*, of which I have already spoken, accompanies the application for examination. The examining body can thus see what opportunities for study the student has had. They know the places of learning he has frequented and the teachers he has studied with. They will find out for themselves in the examination ordeal how he has used and profited by these opportunities.

I have said enough, perhaps, to show the great freedom the student has in choosing his teachers and even his studies. One great principle of German higher education is *Lernfreiheit*—the student is free to learn as he chooses. His progress is not tested from week to week by recitations. For three or four years the man follows his own devices, and then the ruthless examiner tests the quality of those devices. The system would require long and careful study before one could venture an opinion as to its advan-

tages or disadvantages in comparison with our own. But it is manifest that the German student who chooses to be idle has a prolonged period in which to indulge his inclination, free from all academic restraint. There is a *genus* among German students which is rare with us. It is that of men who have presented themselves over and over again for examination for a *degrée* and have failed. They are called by the expressive name: *bemooste Häupter* (moss-grown heads). Liberty is a perilous privilege, and a large number of German students become hard drinking idlers. Yet one feels that the law of Liberty is the only one under which true manliness and pure zeal for learning will be developed most fully. It is perhaps for this reason that the Germans stand first in enthusiasm for learning.

Abundant opportunity is given the student to meet the professor under whom he may be studying. Each professor is usually at home to students for two hours on two afternoons of each week. The student is expected to call on the professor on one of these afternoons at both the beginning and the end of each session, and he may call as often as he chooses and discuss any points that may arise in connection with his studies. These *Sprachstunden* are quite independent of the Seminary classes, with which we are now familiar in this country. The German professors whom I have met are genial men, with whom one feels at home very quickly. One of my pleasantest memories of Berlin is that of the hours I spent at the house of Professor Pfeleiderer, who was one of the Hibbert lecturers and whose great work on the Philosophy of Religion has been translated into English. Though I had no letter of introduction he received me most cordially when I called, as a student attending his lectures, and I partook frequently of his hospitality afterwards. As far as I can observe the German Professor has very little of the *hauteur* and general donnishness that one associates with his English brother. Those I have met are not in any sense men of the world. Professor Pfeleiderer told me that he saw very little of his brother professors, and the life seemed to me to be somewhat lonely and isolated. No doubt the intercourse between the professors would be greater in a smaller place.

One of the questions that one is asked most frequently relates to what is called here the system of duelling among students. *Mensur* is the name the Germans give to these so-called duels. A duel with them as with other nations is the result of a quarrel and is a serious affair. The *Mensur* is quite different, and the worst result it can have is a bad cut on the face. The *Mensur* is confined chiefly to the student corps, and the members of these corps are usually the idle, fast young men of the university. I object to the *Mensur*. It is cruel and barbarous; but it is governed by the rules of fair play, and a man has an opportunity to give as good as he gets in a manly way. Some of the American hazing is both cruel and barbarous without either fair play or manliness.

I must not let myself be led over to other points. Only one word in conclusion. The thought often came into my own mind, and Americans and Canadians in Berlin often put the question to me: "Is it worth while to come over here? Could not we get as great advantage at home?" I am disposed to think there is a great deal of sentiment about the idea of studying in Germany. It is thought to be the proper thing to do, and many do it, not because of the solid advantages which a stay in Germany offers, but because of the reputation for learning which they thus acquire.

The Berlin professors did not strike me as being great teachers. They are, of course, good scholars, but unless a man has the rare gifts of a teacher, his learning is as animated on the printed page as it is on his lips. The book will often, indeed, teach better than the man.

Except in a few cases the advantages to the Arts student of personal instruction by these men is probably not very great; and to this extent one could study nearly as well at home as abroad. But the advantages are very great of an enlarged range of observation, of close and continued intercourse with a people who live differently

and think differently from one's own, a sojourn in Germany, a glimpse of German student life, a struggle with the difficulties of German speech is worth all it costs in time and money.

I sometimes ask myself sadly, Why do we not think of going to England instead of to Germany? Why does the Motherland offer no fountain of learning to her thirsty sons? Who ever thinks of Oxford and Berlin in the same breath as places in which to study? The fault is not ours, but England's. The German university opens her doors to the foreigner and gives him a hearty welcome. She lets him study what he chooses, and furnishes him with every facility in her power. The English university has only prescribed courses of study, and the student not proceeding regularly to a degree as attached to one of the colleges, labors under great disadvantages. The university staff is surprisingly small as compared with that of a German university. It is true that at Oxford and Cambridge a large number of men are engaged in tutorial, or, as we should say, professorial work, in connection with the numerous colleges. But the tutors of each college instruct only the members of a college. Their range of usefulness is thus very limited, and for a great expenditure of money a comparatively small return is secured. In England the cost of living is much greater than it is in Germany, and at Oxford and Cambridge it is higher than the high average of English life generally.

The English class spirit, too, permeates everything. English university education is, in a word, illiberal, expensive, aristocratic in spirit. The man who has breathed the free air of a freer land turns away to Germany and finds that in her republic of letters all men are equal—in opportunity, at any rate. The poor are not needlessly handicapped, and the rich have no peculiar advantages. The honest toiler can work towards his own goal in his own way, and all the help that his fellow men can give is placed within his reach.

GEO. M. WRONG.

P.S.—In the first part of this article, the printer wrought sad havoc with some of my sentences. I mention only the most flagrant case. For "The choice in any special departments—the Philosophy of Religion and Church History was limited—I soon decided whom I should hear," read "The choice in my special departments—the Philosophy of Religion and Church History—was limited, and I soon decided whom I should hear."

G. M. W.

SOPHOCLES AJAX.

vv. 646-649 AND vv. 669*683.

All things the long unnumbered years bring forth
From darkness, into darkness put away.
Naught passes credence. Judgment overtakes
The strenuous oath, th' exceeding stubborn soul.

Yea, for the things most terrible and strong
Obey and rule. The snow-strewn winter so
Gives place to summer, goodly time of fruits;
And so the vault of weary night gives place
To Dawn's white horses, that the light shine forth;
And with the breath of dreadful winds there falls
A hush upon the moaning sea; strong sleep
Whom she has bound, unbinds, nor holds for aye.
And I too, how shall I not wisdom learn?
I will: since lately I have come to know
That so far must one hate one's enemy
That one in turn may love him; and my friend
So far will I be fain to help with aid
As though he will not stay so: in this world
Friendship is oftenest no sure anchorage.

M. H.

Rumor has it that three-fifths of the Harvard faculty are in favor of reducing the course to three years.

MARCH 17, 1891.

THE NOMINATIONS.



NIGHT "of onslaught and despair," on one hand; a night of jubilation and wild exultation, on the other. The hall in the Yonge St. Arcade, procured especially for nomination night, was at an early hour filled with an excited mass of students, gathered together to participate in a meeting that, from all appearances, promised to be of an interest almost unprecedented in the history of the Society. The perennial election excitement has not been strikingly manifest this spring. "Wars and rumors of war" have been heard, and uninitiated partisans and independent voters have awaited in breathless suspense the first sounds of the conflict between the opposing parties, but all week their expectations have been disappointed, and their patience has been exhausted. Never has a quieter week preceded the great annual nomination night. Never before were the corridors so free from argumentative knots of excited politicians, or mysterious little caucuses of scheming partisans, and yet, in spite of the apparent calm, in spite of the unruffled surface of the political pond, the knowing ones shook their heads and muttered many wise saws and modern instances to the effect that they weren't to be caught with chaff—no, not they; that game had been tried before, and so forth, *ad nauseam*—and then they walked off, talking very wisely of "coup d'états" and "surprises," until the wondering freshman in their midst was filled with dreadful awe, and speculated with a foreboding spirit as to what the great-night would bring forth. No wonder, then, that the Yonge Street Arcade heard the tramp of many hurrying feet, and that the hall in the top storey echoed and re-echoed with the sounds of battle. Above the cheers of the enthusiastic could be heard the stirring tones of the fish-horns, and the thump, thump, thump of stamping feet, whilst a dense pall of dust hung over the whole assembly, rendering the private combats in the rear invisible to the keen eye of the President choking off many inexperienced orators and preventing many a maiden speech that, under more favorable circumstances, would undoubtedly have carried the meeting by storm.

The meeting was opened as usual by the reading of the minutes. Hostilities began immediately. Mr. C. A. Stuart objected to the phraseology of a part of the report relating to the medical complication of last week. After considerable argument and consultation, the required change was made and the minutes were adopted. Then the President arose and declared the whole action taken on the medical question at the last meeting to have been unconstitutional. The shouts of the Federals might have been heard for many miles. The Outsiders gazed at one another in consternation. Mr. C. A. Stuart got up and objected, but the President was inexorable and passed on to the next order of business. Mr. C. A. Stuart appealed from the Chairman's ruling. It was ruled that his appeal was out of order. Mr. A. M. Stewart rose to the point of order, that an appeal being in its nature a point of order must be in order at any time. It was ruled that Mr. A. M. Stewart was out of order. Mr. A. M. Stewart then rose to the point of order that he was in order in raising his point of order under that order of business (*i.e.*, the point that Mr. C. A. Stuart's appeal, being in its nature a point of order, was in order under any order of business). Mr. MacKinnon rose to the point of order that Mr. A. M. Stewart was out of order in raising his point of order under the order of business "Notices of Motion," (that is to say, the point that he was in order in raising under that order of business his point of order to the effect that Mr. C. A. Stuart's appeal, being in its nature a point of order, was in order under any order of business). The subsequent proceedings are obscure, but in the end Mr. C. A. Stuart's appeal was put and carried amidst great rejoicing.

The next order of business was the nomination of

officers for the ensuing year. The ball was set a-rolling by Mr. McKellar, who begged to submit the name of Mr. T. A. Gibson, B.A., to the Society for re-election to the office of President. The nomination was supported by Mr. G. H. Ferguson, who spoke in very warm terms of Mr. Gibson's services in the past year. Mr. Gibson thereupon arose, a modest blush still mantling his cheeks, and in a very neat little speech thanked the Society for this second honor they had conferred upon him, but declined to fill the chair again, notwithstanding the regret he felt at severing his official connection with the Society. Mr. Colin Fraser, B.A., then took the floor, and for the next few moments sang the praises of his nominee, Mr. H. E. Irwin, B.A., and was well supported in his vocal effort by the melodious orchestra of the Outside party. When he had finished a hush fell upon the meeting. Everyone held his breath, and the Outsiders fortified themselves heroically against any exhibition of surprise over the long expected "bomb" that they now felt the Federals were going to explode among them. But the silence continued unbroken. The President looked surprised, the Outsiders amazed; the Federals stood calm and collected. At last the voice of the President was heard in a troubled tone, "I declare the nominations for this office closed." A great sigh of satisfaction burst forth from the anxious breasts of the Outsiders. The Federals still stood gloomily and forebodingly silent. The suspense was now even greater than before. Outside leaders gathered in little knots and discussed the situation; whispers of "coup d'états" passed from mouth to mouth over the assembly. The excitement was becoming more and more intense, when the voice of the President was heard asking for nominations for the office of first Vice-President. There was a commotion in the ranks of the Federals, a long peep on their broke forth and Mr. G. H. Ferguson was hoisted up to the platform by his enthusiastic followers. Now the mine at last was to be sprung, and the meeting awaited in breathless suspense to hear the oracle of the Federal party. The voice of a too-hardy Outsider was heard to yell "Bring on your dark horse Fergie," and then the silence was greater than before. At last the oracle spoke "I wish to submit to the meeting the name of a gentleman of *sound judgment and calm deliberation*." And then what a howl went up to heaven through the skylights! For the next few moments your faithful scribe was stunned and completely incapacitated. When he had collected himself sufficiently he found himself in the midst of a howling Babel. The voice of the speaker re-iterating for the fifth time *sound judgment and calm deliberation* was almost drowned in a chorus of "name him Eergie," "who is it?" "go it again" and various other encouraging and sarcastic cries, and then we got the thread of the speech again. "I nominate this gentleman as the leader of no party, but as an Independent member of this society. The Federal Party, Mr. President and gentlemen, is not in this election. I have the honor to submit to you the name of Mr. F. C. Perrin." The scene that followed is beyond description. There was hurrying to and fro in the ranks of the Outsiders, and amazement written upon every feature. This then was the bomb of the Federals! They were out of the fight, but as a Parthian shot, their astute leader, Prometheus like, had stolen the fire of the Outside party, for he it known to all that the aforesaid Mr. Perrin was the ratified candidate of the Outsiders. The moment was critical, but calm returned to the ranks of the Outside party, when a wrathful Jupiter in the form of Mr. C. A. Stuart mounted the platform and nominated Mr. F. E. Perrin. He was followed by the aforesaid fiery element in the form of Mr. Perrin who declined the nomination of Mr. Ferguson and accepted that of the Outside party. The game was now up. Surprises were over, and the last mine had been sprung. Many of the speeches were confused, and disorderly. Many as member after member arose and bade a long and tender farewell to the quondam greatness of the Literary Society. Recrimination followed recrimination. One member was

charged with ruining the Society body and soul; and another had to deny the charge of corrupting innocent Freshmen through the subtle charm of the quiet whist party, and the transient glories of a portfolio in the Cabinet of Her Majesty's first and only Mock Parliament. The violent recriminations on the one hand, and the wild exultation on the other, may each be pardoned, for surely it was a meeting, the like of which has never before been seen in the history of the Society.

This then will be the General Committee for next year: President, Mr. H. E. Irwin, B.A.; First Vice-President, F. E. Perrin; 2nd Vice, W. P. Bull; 3rd Vice, J. D. Webster; Recording Secretary, J. W. Wheaton; Treasurer, J. L. MacDougall; Curator, V. A. Sinclair; Corresponding Secretary, C. H. Mitchell; Historical Secretary, J. W. McIntosh; Secretary of Committees, F. E. Bigelow. Councillors, fourth year, D. Thompson; third, W. J. Knox; second, E. E. Reid; School of Science, A. B. White and W. Gormally.

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE.

The Athletic Association of the School of Science met in Dr. Ellis' lecture room on Friday, March 6, the occasion being the annual meeting and election of officers for the coming year. The report of the last year was read by the secretary, and showed the Association in a prosperous condition. The election of officers then ensued with the result that the following gentlemen were chosen: Hon. President, Mr. C. H. C. Wright; President, Mr. C. E. Langley; Vice-President, Mr. W. A. Lea; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. N. M. Lash; Third year Rep., Mr. C. Forrester; Second year Rep., Mr. H. Carrol. A curator and first year representative are to be chosen from the coming first year.

A number of lectures have stopped, and this fact helps to make the students feel that exams are drawing near. Examinations will commence on April 15, and will be held in Convocation Hall.

On account of the meeting of the Provincial Land Surveyors in the city during the last week, there were several lectures postponed on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Wednesday afternoon a number of the surveyors honored the new school with their presence and approval. Wednesday evening the Association had their annual dinner down town, and by kind courtesy the Engineering Society of the School of Science were favored with an invitation to send a representative to the dinner. Mr. T. R. Deacon, '91, was chosen to fulfil this request, and by the speech which he made in response to the toast to the "Engineering Society," he showed that he was well fitted to represent the embryo engineers and surveyors.

The Engineering Society met in No. 2 Lecture Room on Tuesday last, March 10th, the President in the chair. After the minutes were read the Secretary of the Publishing Committee of the pamphlet reported that the manuscript was in the hands of the printer, and that it was hoped that the book would be published very shortly. It will consist of about one hundred and forty pages. Under the head of Correspondence, the Corresponding Secretary read a letter from an ex-president, Mr. H. E. T. Haultain, '90. He has been managing a tin mine in Bohemia during the last year, and his letter gave a short description of the works, as well as of some of his experiences, in operating the mines.

The regular programme of the meeting consisted of a paper on "Cements," by Mr. E. F. Ball, '88, read by the Corresponding Secretary. Accompanying the paper Mr. Ball sent a number of specimens and test samples of different kinds of cement and materials for the manufacture of cement. Mr. Ball deserves the thanks of the Engineering Society for his great kindness in sending papers, this being the third paper he has written during the past year and a half. Discussion ensued at the close of the paper.

Motions were then moved and carried to the effect that the Ann Arbor Engineering Society and the Provincial Land Surveyors be requested to exchange pamphlets with the S.P.S. Engineering Society.

The constitution was discussed and several notices of motion were given. Mr. R. W. Thompson gave notice of motion to merge the offices of second and third year representatives on the General Committee into editors of the pamphlet. Mr. C. H. Mitchell gave notice of a motion regarding the publishing of the annual pamphlet.

CLASS OF '94.

The Class Society of '94 held its closing meeting last Wednesday in the University building. In the absence of the President the First Vice-President, Mr. R. H. Glover, occupied the chair, discharging his onerous duties in a manner pre-eminently creditable alike to the Society and to himself. There being a conspicuous absence of the minutes of the previous meeting, the Society dispensed with the hearing and approving of these, generously accounting for this deficiency by supposing that the worthy Secretary had fallen asleep at the last meeting and in all probability had not yet wakened up. The business of the Society was then proceeded with.

Mr. S. J. McLean brought forward a series of amendments to the constitution which provoked considerable discussion, and which, after having passed through various ramifications, modifications and variations, were at length adopted by the Society. The programme was then taken up.

The Class orator, Mr. W. P. Reeve, delivered an oration in which he reviewed, from a Freshman's standpoint, the academic year now drawing to a close. Mr. Reeve surpassed himself upon this occasion. His powerful and graphic description of the terrors to which Freshmen were wont to be subjected in by-gone days kept his listeners upon the tiptoe of expectation and excitement, and when in closing he dilated with such force and eloquence upon the grandeur of our noble University, the audience burst into tumultuous and long continued applause.

Owing to the fact that Lecture Room No. 10 in which the meeting was held has not been provided with a piano, the Society was unfortunately deprived of the pleasure of listening to the musical selection on the programme. The audience however soon forgot this disappointment in listening to the clear, sensible and encouraging criticism of the Class critic, Mr. Griffiths. This ended the programme, after the completion of which the Society soon adjourned.

KING'S COLLEGE CHARTER.

Sir Daniel Wilson is an authority on things archæological and antiquarian, and last night he announced to the Senate of the University of Toronto his most recent discovery. For some years he has been on a still hunt for the original charter of King's College, the embryonic form of our present Provincial seat of learning. The old and knightly antiquarian at last got a hint that the old Bishop of Toronto (Rev. Dr. Strachan) had had it, and a search of the archives of his successor revealed the long-sought-for document. But the Bishop did not think he was authorized to surrender it. So off went Sir Daniel to the Attorney-General and got him to intervene. Whether Mr. Mowat threatened the Bishop with a writ of *de charta replegiando* or merely persuaded him by milder means, the worthy prelate surrendered it, and last night the bursar of the University came into the Senate proceedings armed with a large box like a banjo case and drew therefrom the original parchment, the seal attached to which was as large as a pancake and as thick as ten of them. All were in an excellent state of preservation after seventy years of pigeon-holing in London and Toronto.—*World*.

Things Generally.

IV.



HERE are some institutions around this College that should be served with a writ *quo warranto*; they should be peremptorily required to show cause for their existence; like the Platean prisoners in the hands of their Spartan masters they should be asked: "What good thing have ye done unto us?" and in default of a sufficient answer they should immediately die. One of

these (I say it with all deference to the ability of its members—for I am one myself) is the Modern Language Club. Consider the spectacle that august assembly presents at any ordinary French or German meeting. The President and the Secretary sit in state upon the elevated platform as if they were directing the deliberations of some grave national senate, and below them—what an audience! Back in the corner at the right hand a few gentlemen members, some officers, who think they really *should* attend, others whipped up from the reading room by an enthusiastic official to save appearances, and an occasional poor, wandering individual who has somehow heard it said that it is generally understood by those who ought to know that a Modern Language man gets some good from going to the club and nobly declaring his freedom from that "narrow curriculum"; and a little in front, and across an aisle of decorous width, a somewhat larger number of lady devotees. For a time they sit in sad solemnity until at last the grave formalities begin. The Secretary (*i.e.*, the Recording Secretary) reads the minutes of the previous meeting. For do not all great societies have the "minutes read and approved"? Is it not an immemorial custom? What a gap there would be in our undergraduate life if there were no minutes to be read and approved? Then, besides, what a delightful thing it is to recall in memory the pleasure of that previous meeting, to feel anew the thrill of enthusiastic joy that then aroused our linguistic hearts, to live over again that "crowded hour of glorious life"! By all means let the minutes be read and let them be solemnly approved. Then there comes a programme, seemingly based on the general type of the cross-roads tea meeting, without the tea sponge-cake and national anthem. First we have a song, a sort of preliminary exercise that will, no doubt, enable us the better to shape our throats for the German guttural, to appreciate more fully the beauties of French or German poetry. Besides, do they not say that music itself hath a language? And who knows but it be a modern language too? Then we have a reading in French or German; a series of wild heroic struggles with nasals or unlauts. We watch the battle with interest though knowing little of its import, and we applaud the hero for his probable good intentions. Next comes the *pièce de résistance*, an essay, a veritable essay, in French or German; and we settle ourselves to understand, of course we must *understand*, for are we not Modern Language students? What are we good for if we cannot understand? We listen with attentive ears and catch an idea or two; but a badly formed sentence, a wrong pronunciation or a noise in the hall diverts us, and we are off the track. Again we make a desperate effort to grasp the reader's meaning (for are we not Modern Language students?) and we get another glimpse of an idea but, there! we are lost again. We soon give up in despair; no doubt the others take it all in; as for ourselves we shall wait till he's done; only two more pages evidently—that's not long. We think of elections, exams, and our country home. But suddenly, "he's done"! What a splendid essay! Prolonged and enthusiastic applause! (There is no use in being *too* unconventional.)

The last patch in this "crazy quilt" entertainment is the "conversation." We proceed to teach each other to make mistakes in French or German idioms. They did it when we were Freshmen and the custom must not be allowed to die. The honor and dignity of the Modern

Language course would be jeopardized, there would be a gaping void in our hearts that could not be filled if we did not gabble a minute or two in this foreign tongue. (For are we not students of Modern Languages?)

The English meetings would be more tolerable if they were less pretentious. It is here that the refinement and the culture, the beauty and the chivalry of the undergraduate body assemble. I do not, indeed, charge them with doing so intentionally and maliciously, but it is generally supposed that, as a matter of fact, they do there assemble. Neither do I object to their assembling. The oftener they do so the better, provided they have a proper end in view. But I must humbly protest against the general character and purpose of these English meetings. Some great poet or other has looked at human nature as revealed in his own heart and the world around him. He has written down in beautiful language his opinions and thoughts about it. Then our essayist reads a paper giving us *his* opinions and thoughts about the poet's opinions and thoughts; and we sit and dreamily listen, and feel lonely and noble. Then we go home and argue about the "essay" and give *our* opinions and thoughts about the *essayist's* opinions and thoughts about the *poet's* opinions and thoughts about the meaning of this life of ours. And all the time there are depths in our own hearts unfathomed and truths—yes, and falsehoods—lying there unrevealed, if we would only look inward and search them; and around about us are men and women from whose lives we may learn directly without the intervention of either great poet or little essayist, men and women across whose faces we may see flitting life's sunshine and shadow, whose joy and sorrow we may ourselves study and understand, and so sympathize with the better; all which if we do, I think we shall be refined and cultured indeed. No, I don't think I am a Philistine. I don't object to real culture, but I do object to the third-hand, doubled-diluted article that institutions like the Modern Language Club are likely to supply. By all means let us have culture, but don't let us form a joint-stock company to manufacture it. Culture is surely a great deal like happiness; if you go to work too directly, openly and deliberately to attain it, you are apt to miss it, if not entirely, at any rate in its highest and truest forms. By all means let us take from the rich mines of thought that the masters have left us, but don't let us organize expeditions to go prospecting with pick-axe and shovel. By all means let us read the great poets and try to appreciate them, but don't let us send out heralds and post up placards proclaiming, "Go to, go to, let us 'talk about Browning.'" You may tell me, if you like, that this is an "age of criticism in literature." Very well; then the age may betake itself to some hyperequatorial clime and I shall go on my way alone with this prayer ever on my lips: "Heaven preserve me from a 'Critical Essay!'"

NUNQUAM NOSCENDUS.

THE COLLEGE WORLD.

A new law building costing \$65,000 will be built by Cornell.

There are 107,312 college students in the entire empire of Japan.

Queen's College, Oxford, has just celebrated the 550th anniversary of its foundation.

The University of Michigan Glee Club recently netted \$4,500 at a single engagement in Detroit.

Work on the new Pacific Lutheran University at Tacoma, Wash., will be begun on May 1. It is to cost \$100,000.

The Harvard faculty have decided to allow entering students to substitute Chinese and Japanese for the Latin and Greek of the required entrance course.

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE

THE RUGBY MEETING.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Association Football Club was held in the Y. M. C. A. Hall last Thursday afternoon. There was a large and representative attendance of the leading kickers of the College, among which number were J. R. Blake, B.A., and J. B. Peat. In the absence of the President the chair was occupied by Mr. Hugh B. Fraser. Mr. Duncan was appointed Secretary, *pro tem.*

After the minutes of the last meetings had been read and approved, the subject of the proposed Athletic Association was brought up and very fully discussed. The prevailing opinion seemed to be that an Athletic Association should be formed by the clubs without the intervention of the Literary Society; this opinion was strengthened when it was learned that the Society didn't propose to assume financial liability. After several members of the club had expressed their views on the subject, the following resolution, moved by Mr. Casey Wood and seconded by Mr. Reed, was unanimously carried: "Resolved,—That we, the members of the Association Football Club, express our opinion that an Athletic Association entirely distinct from the Literary Society would be in the best interests of athletics in the College; that the Secretary be instructed to correspond with the other clubs to that end, and that a committee be appointed to take action in the matter." Messrs. H. B. Fraser, C. S. Wood and A. F. Edwards were named as a committee.

Captain Walter P. Thomson presented his report. He referred to the unbeaten record of the club during the two seasons of his captaincy, to the good feeling that had always prevailed among all the members of the club and between the 'Varsity teams and their opponents, and also to the pride which he justly felt at being captain for two seasons of the Champions of Canada. Mr. Hammill, captain of the second team, spoke of the excellent record of the second team, which had won the Championship of the Toronto Association. "Hughie" Fraser, the veteran footballer, took this opportunity of saying a few kind words to the members. They were thoroughly appreciated as everybody present knew "Hughie" meant them.

The election of officers was then proceeded with. This was done in a quiet but highly enthusiastic manner. Prof. J. Mark Baldwin was nominated for the office of Honorary President by Mr. Merrill, and was unanimously re-elected amidst great applause. The mover read a letter which he had received before Christmas from Prof. Baldwin, expressing the interest he had taken in the affairs of the club, and the satisfaction he felt at the brilliant successes achieved. In re-electing him the club has done honor to Prof. Baldwin and to itself.

The other officers were then nominated and almost all were elected by acclamation. President, J. C. Breckenridge, '91; Vice-President, B. W. Merrill, '92; Secretary, D. M. Duncan, '93; Treasurer, A. F. Edwards, '93; Curator, A. G. Jackson, '94; Councillors, S. C. Wood, '92, and R. E. Hooper, '92; J. C. Warbrick, Medical College, and H. A. Little, '93; A. R. Goldie, School of Science, and W. J. Lingalbach, '94.

"Watty" Thomson was unanimously re-elected captain. In nominating "Watty," Mr. McLay referred in complimentary terms to the efficiency and energy the captain had displayed throughout the season and to his fitness for the position by virtue of his ability as a player, his calm judgment and the magnetic influence he exerts over his men. Mr. Fraser did likewise, and "Watty" made an appropriate reply, accepting the honor and expressing his determination to lead the club on to victory next fall.

After Messrs. Edwards and Peat had been appointed delegates to the Toronto League the meeting adjourned.

The annual meeting of the Rugby Football Club was held on Thursday in the Residence Dining Hall and was very largely attended. In the absence of the President, Bro. H. C. Pope presided. Proceedings began with a few appropriate remarks from the chair, conveying the congratulations of the Club to the second fifteen upon their success in the junior series of the Ontario Union. The Treasurer's report was read and adopted and showed a balance of \$14.15. The meeting then proceeded to the discussion of the plan which was recently adopted by the Literary Society for the formation of an athletic association. The opinion which prevailed was decidedly adverse to having the proposed association in any way connected with the Literary Society; and if the two organizations were in any way connected it was considered that the results might be harmful to both. The discussion concluded with the adoption of a resolution, moved by Mr. D. J. Armour and seconded by Mr. W. L. McQuarrie:—

"That the Toronto University Rugby Football Club, believing that it is in the best interests of athletics in the University to have an athletic association entirely disconnected from and independent of the Literary Society, hereby expresses its disapproval of the scheme which was recently promulgated, giving the Literary Society a large representation on the executive committee; and that the Society be informed of this, our opinion."

In order to carry out the ideas of the Club in this matter it was moved by Mr. W. H. Bunting, seconded by Mr. G. B. Burson, and carried, "that a committee, consisting of Messrs. Armour, Barker and McQuarrie, be appointed to confer with representatives of the other athletic organizations with a view to the amendment of the proposed constitution of the embryo Athletic Association."

The following officers for the ensuing year were then elected: President, D. J. Armour, '91; Sec.-Treas., R. K. Barker, '92; Committee, F. H. Moss, '92, W. L. McQuarrie, '92, W. W. McRae, '92, A. A. Vickers, '93, W. Jones, '93, N. Lash, '93, G. Clayes, '94, W. Gilmour, '94, F. Boyd, '94.

After hearing valedictory addresses from the retiring president and captain, and a speech from President Armour, the meeting adjourned.

THE EUROPEAN TRIP.

The European trip of Canadian footballers bids fair to materialize. Two of the present 'Varsity team, "Watty" Thomson and "Kit" Forrester, and "Eddie" Senkler, of the '89 champion team, have already been chosen. It is understood that two other 'Varsity men are considered very likely candidates.

The annual meeting of the Cricket Club will be held in the Residence Dining Hall on Thursday afternoon next at 4.30.

W. J. Corcoran, the professional athletic trainer of Boston, has been re-engaged to coach the Yale bicycle team.

The first eight-oared shell provided with outriggers was built in 1846, and was used in the Oxford-Cambridge race of that year. In 1873 the sliding seat was used for the first time.

The expenses of Harvard's Football Association during the year ending Sept. 1, 1890, were \$9,000 including \$2,500 old debts. These expenses were met by \$3,600 subscription and \$7,600 taken at the games.

A recent article in the *U. of M. Daily* gives the sources of the funds of the University, as follows: From tuition, \$60,000. From the interest on the land fund, \$38,651. From a general state tax of one-twentieth of a mill, \$47,272.50. From legislative appropriations, \$100,000, making a total annual income for the University of \$245,923.50.

MIDST THE MORTAR BOARDS.

The last number of *THE VARSITY* will be issued next week.

Last Friday afternoon Sam. Robertson entertained a number of friends in his cosy little room in Residence.

The regular meeting of the Y.M.C.A. last Thursday afternoon was well attended. Mr. Evans led the meeting.

The Young People's Society of St. James Square Church gave a reception to students in the parlors of the church last Tuesday evening. Quite a large number of the undergraduates accepted the invitation and spent a very pleasant evening. An octette from the Glee Club was also present.

Spencer Stone, '91, of Chatham, was in the city last week, and while here entertained a party of his College friends to dinner at the Queen's. When in College, Stone was a live member of the Glee Club, and was on the Association football team. He is now in business with his father in Chatham.

The students of Canadian universities took an active interest in the recent elections. On the announcement of the result a crowd of Toronto University students bearing the British flag at their head paraded the city. A special squad of police was detailed to form part of the procession, but although the boys were quite enthusiastic there were no arrests.—*Cornell Daily Sun*.

The members of the Association football champion team, the officers of the club and other friends were the guests of Prof. and Mrs. Baldwin on Thursday evening last. During the evening Prof. Baldwin, Honorary President of the club, was presented with a handsomely framed photo of the members of the first team. Captain Thomson paid a graceful tribute to the President, and the latter made a suitable reply.

MODERN LANGUAGE CLUB.—Edwin Arnold was the author discussed at the regular English meeting of the Club, Monday afternoon, March the 9th. Mr. Evans, of the third, read an excellent essay on "Edwin Arnold as a Poet." Miss Hillock delighted the audience with a splendidly rendered piano solo. After the programme the nominations of candidates was proceeded with. Mr. D. R. Keys was unanimously elected Honorary President of the Club.

The last meeting for the year of the Philosophy Society of '93 was held last Saturday, Mr. Tracy, President, in the chair. An able and interesting essay was read by Mr. P. J. Pettinger, on the subject "Hume and His Relation to Preceding Philosophers." The paper as read showed a comprehensive grasp of the subject, and wide

reading on the systems that culminated in Hume, and was followed by an animated discussion in which all present took part. The Society meets again, *if all is well*, next October.

GLEE CLUB.—There were about sixty members present at the annual meeting of the Glee Club. The chair was occupied by the Hon. President, R. A. Gibson, B.A. The report of the Secretary of the Glee Club's work during the past year was read and adopted. It was decided to take steps towards the formation of an orchestra in connection with the Club. The elections for next year resulted as follows: Hon. President, A. T. Thompson, B.A.; President, R. K. Barker; Leader, P. Parker; Secretary, H. A. Moore; Treasurer, A. F. Edwards; Councillors, 4th year, J. McIntosh and A. McLaughlin; 3rd year, C. McPherson and C. H. Mitchell; 2nd year, Bigelow and McAllister, (S.P.S.).

The THETA XI. chapter of the ZETA PSI fraternity in connection with Toronto University, held its 12th annual banquet at Webb's on Friday evening. The banquet was the most successful in the history of the chapter. The toast list was "The Queen," "Canada," responded to by S. B. Leacock and J. J. Hughes; a selection by the ZETA PSI orchestra, Messrs. D. J. Armour, bones; L. A. Moore, guitar; G. Glassco, violin; Theo. Coleman, piccolo; R. K. Barker, mouth organ; "ZETA PSI," W. E. Burritt; "Elders," responded to by E. C. Coleman, E. Bristol, J. McG. Young, J. S. Maclean; song, J. J. Hughes and J. McG. Young; "Absent Brothers," "Benedicts," replies from F. H. Moss and E. Bristol; "The University," reply from G. A. H. Fraser; "ALPHA PSI," reply from W. I. Senkler; "THETA XI.," reply by W. Cowie.

DI-VARSITIES.

A young artist who painted in ochre,
Once indulged in a game of draw
pochre;

But his better half came
And beslippered him so,
Interrupting the game,
That with anger aglow

He swore in his wrath he would chochre.

Now this artist was fond of hot biscuit,
And he said to himself I'll not riscuit,
For my supper'll be cold,
And Kitty's a dear
If she is pretty old.

(Hope she isn't near here!)

So I think I'll just make up and kisscuit.

—*Yale Record*.

Editor: "That joke is only fit for the waste-basket."

Contributor: "Thank you, sir; the last editor I showed it to said it wasn't fit for anything."—*Yale Record*.

A SOLILOQUY.

I promised Edith not to smoke,
In Lent, and meant it when I spoke,
But she can't know—girls never do—
How one enjoys to puff a few
Blue clouds of smoke. By Jove! I will
Have just one pipe: then quit until
Lent's over. Hang it! Where's my
pipe?

Oh, yes! Jack borrowed it last night
And never'll think to bring it back.
That's always just the way with Jack.
And now just when I really meant
To smoke my pipe, I can't: it's lent!

—*Yale Record*.

MARGUERITE.

Pretty, wavy, dark brown hair,
Little dimples everywhere,
Eyes so blue and soft and sweet,
How I love my Marguerite!
—Ah! 'tis not because her eyes are
blue,
But because they show her heart is true.

Dainty gowns—pale greens and grays,
Fascinating little ways,
Red, red lips that scorn deceit,
How I love my Marguerite!
—Ah! 'tis not because her lips are red,
But because "I love you" they have
said.
—*Wellesley Prelude*.

The evening, for her bath of dew
Is partially undressed,
The sun, behind a bob-tailed flush,
Is setting in the West.
The planets light the heavens with
The flash of their cigars,
The sky has put his night-shirt on,
And buttoned it with stars.
—*Vassar Mis*.

"What kind of a flower is that
the Count has in his button-hole?"
"Flower of the nobility." "What's
that?" "Marigold."—*Yale Record*.

"How is it with your soul?" asked
a clergyman, stooping over a dying
carpenter. "The future world," sighed
the moribund, "is getting a good deal
planer."

Little Georgie: Mama, where is
the World's Fair going to be held?
Mama: "In Chicago, dear; why?"
Little Georgie: "Oh, nothing; only
while I was hiding under the sofa last
night I heard Charlie tell Grace to
come over to him and he would show
her where the World's Fair ought to
be held, and I was just going to peep
out and see where when the gas went
out."—*Harvard Lampoon*.



STUDENTS ATTENTION!

This is a fac-simile of our plain
made from the metal from the
College bell, which we are selling
at a moderate price. Every
student should have one, as they make an
interesting souvenir of the fire.

J. E. ELLIS,
Cor. King and Yonge Sts.