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# EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY POLITICS AND EVENTS. 

Vol. V.

## Editorial Notes.

The Shakesperian recitals given in Convocation Hall by MrSamuel Brandram were a genuine treat. The recitation of the entire play of Hamlet was an almost unprecedented feat of memory ; but the correct pourtrayal of each of the various characters in the play showed the unmistakable genius of the performer. Mr. Brandram, despite the great unsuitability of Convocation Hall, drew large and delighted audiences to hear him. There is no necessity to bespeak for him a large attendance at his recitals in Shaftesbury Hall next week; but we very cordially wish him a pleasant and profitable engagement.

It seems to be the rule now-a-days for papers and periodicals generally to exert themselves unusually about Christmas.tide. It would never do if a high-class journal such as The 'Varsity were to be behind its contemporaries in attractiveness during the holiday season. Therefore, by general consent; it has been thought desirable to issue a Christmast number on or about the 25 th of December. The proposed issue will probably contain 12 pages of purely literary matter-prose and verse. We might state that it will bear no resemblance to its predecessor of 1883 . All the articles will be signed, and will deal with a variety of topics, not necessarily dealing with winter or Christmas, but none the less suitable for the season. We have assurances of assistance from several of those who have laid the 'Varsity under obligations in the past, and hope to be able to give a partial table of contents in our next issue. We appeal to undergraduates especially for support. Contributions are solicited from them, and we doubt not they will respond in a liberal manner. All MS. intended for insertion in the Christmas number must be sent in on or before the 18th of that month.

Several of the County Associations of Convocation have perfected their organization for this year, and held satisfactory initiatory meeting. The last heard from is the Middlesex Association, whose members, in addition to showing an unusual interest in University matters, announce the intention of introducing this year a new means of arousing and maintaining enthusiasm among themselves, and of affording an opportunity for co-operation with the graduates of some of the other western counties of the Province. This new feature,-a dinner, to be given in January by the Middlesex graduates, - cannot fail to be productive of valuable results. Not only, will it doublless attain the immediate object sought, which is avowedly local, but it is, as well, certain to be but the first of a series of local
social ${ }^{\text {social }}$ gatherings throughout the Province; for the practical experience of the past four years has shown little difficulty in the stirring-up of our graduates to a proper and genuine enthusiasm, and to a due sense of their privileges and responsibilities in members of Convocation. Feeling this, we have confidence in predicting for the new departure of the Middlesex Association pervaded success. If the unanimity which seems to have pervaded the meeting which decided on its adoption was genuiné,
that success is assured.

We are assured by Mr. J.F. Thomson that it was no part of his intention to show the slightest discourtesy to the students and professors of University College in connection with the recent entertainments in Convocation Hall. The whole difficulty appears to have been due to an unfortunate misapprehension on the part of Mr. Thomson and his ushers. They state that they supposed that professors and students when they attended meetings of any kind in Convocation Hall always appeared in academical costumes. We are informed, moreover, that those students who were known personally by Mr. Thomson's as such, and also those who wore gowns, were granted the freedom of the hall. It is, however, very much to be regretted that some other plan of distinguishing professors and students from the general public
was was not adopted. It would have been an easy matter to have stationed someone at the door who could huve recognized them, and the exceedingly disagreeable experience to which some of them were subjected on account of this neglect would have been avoided. The supposition, too, that persons not wearing gowns and yet presenting professors and studente' tickets were prima facie not students or professors, was unwarrantable.

In view of the extreme party spirit which is now, unfortunately, so rampant in the Literary Society, it is questionable whether its members should be entrusted with the serious duty of selecting those who are to represent the society at its public meetings. It is a debatable point whether or not the General Committee should be charged with the duty of selection. It is plain that some other way of appointing the Reader, Essayist, and Speakers must be substituted for the present mode of election by ballot. One point we wish to insist on most strongly, and it is this: It is not right to place the reputation and dignity of the Literary Society in the hands of those who have never given evidence of training or ability; or who have never even ta'sen the opportunity of showing their ability as Readers, Essayists, or Speakers at the regular meetings of the society. Now, we do not say that gentlemen who have never thus come before the society are therefore lacking in elocutionary, literary, or forensio power. Far from it. But we cannot help thinking that it is highly presumptive evidence of a want of perception on the part of the General Committee, that the aforementioned members have never been asked to assist at ordinary meetings of the society. The general point we wish to emphasize is this: That it is not desirable to entrust the literary reputation of the society to untried men. There are too many influences at work undermining the usefulness and dignity of the society. Why add another probable one?

The impression seems to prevail in some quarters that The - Varsity is not independent but the organ of a particular party. A statement to this effect was industriously circulated in print a short time ago by a certain interested individual. The precious publication which contained the implication may be seen by the curious in our sanctum, where we have hung it up in terrorem as the wily agriculturist is wont to do with the predacious crow, devourer of the furrowed corn. Meanwhile we assure our readers that there is no truth whatever in the report. The 'Vasirix knows no prty. It is the endeavor of its managers to make it knows no part
as widely representative as possible of the whole body of graduates and undergraduates of Toronto University. The composition of the staff and of the directorate is a sufficient guarantee that this intention will be fairly carried out. Our colmmns are always open to contributions or communications from our readers of whatever party they may be, so long as they have something to say and say it in a fairly readable manner. We assume neither responsibility nor censorship in relation thereto, but allow every man's word to speak for itself, and are therefore desirous that as often as possible our contributors and correspondents would allow their real names to be appended to their productions. Thus we seek to reflect University opinion as a whole, and not at all our own views concerning it, or the views of one party or another in the University. We are sure that whatever false views have existed in any minds as to our position in this regard would be entirely dissipated by an unprejudiced examination of The 'Varsity itself in the light of the above observations.

Whether students wear academical gowns or not is surely a small matter to all sensible people. But with that strange perversity which so often characterizes those who should know better, the faculty of Laval University attempted to force on their students a costume obnoxious to some of them, and the result was that the very existence of the institution has been imperilled by the organized resistance of the students. It is said that at length the faculty have yielded, and gowns will not be worn. The authorities at Queen's College also have issued a proclamation threatening certain pains and penalties to students not wearing gowns. The Queens's College Journal in a noticeably obsequious article endorses the action of the faculty and puts forth certain alleged reasons therefor. For ourselves we do not hesitate to assert that it is a ground of astonishment to us how men whose professed duty it is to develop the minds of others can occupy themselves in such a trifling basiness. We never heard of a thoroughly earnest and successful professor who paid the slightest attention to trivialities that are suited to the capacity of tailors' apprentices. (We beg their pardon !) Students should be allowed to use their own discretion in such matters. If there remains any longer any reason for wearing gowns, that reason will keep vitality in the custom. But nothing is more ludicrous or more surely destined to ignominious failure than any attempt to continue by arbitrary measures a custom from which the life has long since departed. We commend to Queen's and Laval the example of University College, where, although the regulation requiring gowns still remains on the calendar, the good sense of the president and most of the professors is seen in allowing the students to do as they
please in this particular.

The question whether professors should sit upon University Examining Boards appears to be again coming up for discussion. The immense influence of examinations upon the intel lectual life and progress of Ontario is not in general properly estimated, Under the present system the University examinations determine almost entirely the nature of the education imparted in our High Schools, and through these that of the Public Schools also. It is then a matter of infinite importance that the greatest care should be exercised in the selection of University examiners. Those whose duty it is to make this selection have two great difficulties to overcome. There are few persons eligible for the position who have the requisite ability to act as examiners, and the greater number of these are unwilling to accept an appointment probably because of the insufficient remuneration offered. And if the Senate are to be precluded from making some of the appointments from the Col. lege Faculty, the difficulty will be much increased. Moreover, there seems to be no reason why professors should not be eligible for the position. If a person have the qualities of a good professor, he will probably maku a good examiner also. But, of course, the mere fact that he occupies a professor's chair is not a sufficient reason for supposing that lie is a proper person to be chosem as an examiner. There are objections against con.
stituting the Examining Board entirely of professors, but these of course do not warrant their exclusion altogether. Such exclusion would lead immediately and directly to very serious evils. Examinations, then, instead of being instruments of education and supplementary to teaching, would usurp a position which does not belong to them and control the teaching. College professors would degenerate into mere "coaches," and instead of a system of liberal education we should have a system of cram, and a more disastrous intellectual calamity than this cannot be conceived as befalling any country.

## MODERN LANGUAGES AND THEIR NARROWNESS.

The reader will recall our figure of the mosaics in last issue. The mosaics are works of literature; the blocks are words and individual expressions, and their form is the simple root-meaning of words; Grieb represents book assistance of all kinds; the light and atmosphere are that inexpressible, though emphatic something in German nature and modes of thought by virtue of which alone German forms are called a language as distinguished from all other languages, and receive a genius -a life and spirit of their own.
To those who give the matter any serious consideration it must be evident that a language is just as little independent of this mental light and atmosphere as ordinary colors are indepen dent of light in the physical world. Appreciation of German language-forms implies the power of transferring oneself to this German light and atmosphere, and we can appreciate the forms only in so far as we are able to examine them in this creative and vivifying medium. Language is not a written thing simply. It is the merest accident that it should be such at all. The written forms serve only to call up the real language, which lies far deeper than any forms can reach. They are no more the language itself than a fossil skeleton is the live mastodon ; they are the remains of what once was an existence in the mind of the writer-nothing more; and we, the readers, are required to clothe these "dead bones" afresh and breathe into them anew their breath of life; and each one of us for himself. If the dead forms are more expressive to you than to your neighbour, it is because you inspire more vitality into them than he: you have a larger fund of experiences and associations with which to clothe them. You may fancy that all the beauts of language lies in the forms themselves, because these are the immediate cause of the thoughts with which your mind is occue pied; but a little consideration will shew that these depend entirely upon personal associations for their peculiar force. Our only possible conclusion, then, is that the only language-forms which are language-forms-which we can in any sense be said to know-are those which are directly associated with our personal experience.

This may be granted; but have we not our language experience in English? Is it not a simple matter to give our experiences in German dress ?

We have our store of English experiences, and in so far ${ }^{* \theta}$ know our English; but to those who have caught the force and truth of our figure of the mosaics it must appear absurd to speak of clothing English ideas in German dress, or of observ ing German forms in an English light. The sum total of Ger man thoughts and feelings may equal the English sum total, but individual German thoughts and feelings do not coincide with English : else would their language forms coincide. As in the mosaic we find that nearly every block selected from ond composition exhibits peculiar projections and curves, $\mathfrak{a n d}^{\text {d }}$ especially tints, which no block-perhaps no number of block ${ }^{6}$ taken from the other composition can match, so do we find witb words and expressions in language. Germans have their ex. periences and associations entirely different from ours; thel language is and always must be the outcome of these, and our only way to their language is through their experience.
We all know that in commencing the study of a language ${ }^{\text {W }}$ regard each word as a clearly marked equivalent of one or mort English words, and that at our next m.oeting with that particlu lanword the English form immediately rises in our mind and suggrests tle idea. The ghost of the English word innunts

## THE NATURAL SCIENCES COURSE.

The letters which have appeared recently in our columns on this subject have attracted considerable attention, particularly from the students pursuing the course in Science. As these communications express, we believe, the sentiments of a large and important body of our undergraduates, we desire to direct particular attention to the subject.

The question in discussion really resolves itself into this: Is it desirable to introduce further specialization into our curriculum? Is is advisable to allow students to take an Arts degree without having a comparatively intimate acquaintance with all the important branches of Science? We propose to answer these queries fairly and with a due regard for the maintenance of a high standard in the Arts course.
In this connection the question naturally arises: Is Science perse properly a department of the Arts course? We cannot think that it is. But of this more will be said presently. We venture to surmise that to a large number of people the term 'Arts Course ' conveys the idea of a groundwork of Classics, a dash of Mathematics, a smattering of Mental and Moral Philosophy, a superficial knowledge of the Modern Languages, and a fact or two about the general principles of Science. This impression is in some respects correct. Our pass course for a degree would bear out such a conception. To obtain such a degree requires, in reality, little more than a general acquaintance with those branches of learning which are usually considered worthy of study in order to justify a claim to rank as an educated man. That a successful passing of the four annual pass examinations entitles one to rank as an educated man, does not of necessity, follow. It depends-as does the successful acquirement of any knowledge-upon the personal application and devotion of the individual student during his undergraduate days.

Can we say, then, that a student who graduates in any one of our specialized honor departments can lay claim to the same distinction as an ordinary pass student who has touchedthough lightly it is true-upon all the branches of polite learning? The Senate by prescribing certain of the pass subjects which must be taken in addition to his honor work, virtually says, Yes. The general consensus of opinion, with which we eordially agree, is in the affirmative It is taken for granted that students have supplemented their own specialized reading by acquainting themselves with current thought on the principal branches of learning which go to make up what is usually called a liberal education. It is recognized that general profici-ency-in its widest and most comprehensive sense-is impossible; and that to succeed in life one must be a specialist. This is, we think, conceded by all. If we admit the justice and force of the principle of specialization at all, we should admit it universally.

We have gone over these generalizations because we believe them to be essential in the discussion which has arisen in regard to our Sciencэ course. We are assured our readers will grant the correctness of our views thus far. Now, if we agree to the principle of specialization, we must, to be consistent, follow it out to its natural conclusion. The Senate permitted the old department of Mathematics to be divided into the two subdepartments of Pure Mathematics and Physics. The wisdom of this course cannot be doubted. Who can, or will, have the courage to say that Biology, Chemistry, and Geology, are not as vast and important branches of Science, as Pure Mathematics and Physics, are of the general subject which we vaguely call
mathematics. We mathematics. We feel inclined to say that the study of any one is of much greater importance Science which we have indicated than is the exclusive stady of transcere surpassing interest, This is, of course, a matter of of transcendental Mathematics. istry, and Geology, are as important relativel Biology, Chemmatics, and Physics, why let a student graduat in eithe Mathelatter and deny him a similar privilege as regards the former? To adopt the one and to reject the other principle seems to us to be illogical in the extreme. In the first few years after the sub-division of the department of the Natural Sciences, there might be a paucity of students in each of the brancies. But
might be a apaucity of students in each of the brand attractions
this would only be temporary. As the advantages and

In next issue we shall discuss the fourth object of Modern Language study-the scientific aspect of the question.
foreign skeleton and appears before us the instant we approach it. English life is concealed in the foreign form, and nothing more. Is this a knowledge of a foreign language? It would most be uncharitable not to call it snch, for where is the graduate of our University who has advanced much beyond this stage even in modern
language it cannot be.

Viewed in this light then, the third object" becomes rather visionary. Enjoying the literature may be a worthy object, but there is only one way to accomplish it; and it would seem that the young ladies are not so far wrong as to the proper starting point; experience is their basis of language, only they fail to carry their method far enough. We can understand a work of literature only when we thoroughly understand the common every-day forms of expression. The people's-the so-called vulgar idiom-is the vital part of language. It is not only the root which nourishes, but the solid trunk which raises and supports the graceful branches and the splendid blossoms and foliage of literature. Pluck the blossoms and they wither; transplant the root and in due time it will bring forth leaves and blossoms. It is quite possible to appropriate a few colloquial French expressions and still have a very imperfect knowledge of French ; but the man is yet to be found who has a profound or even a satisfactory working knowledge of French without the collaquial.

The study of language now begins to assume gigantic proportions; it is not merely a learning of new word forms, but implies a readjustment of the whole mental vision. Time-an almost unlimited time-it must take. Only as we live our experiences over again in connection with a foreign language does our knowledge of that language grow; and when our circle of such experiences widens until its circumference coincides with that of our English circle, we shall be justified in comparing our knowledge of that language with our knowledge of English. We do not wish to be understood to say it will require as many years to obtain such a round of foreign experiences as it has taken to form our English circle. The student, in the light of his past experiences, could place himself so favourably, and so control circumstances that a few years would suffice to repeat the experiences of a lifetime, if our University encouraged him to do so ; but unfortunately it discourages true language study. Nor do we wish to say that books-grammars, dictionaries and texts-are not to be used. What we do say is that they are aids to study-but aids only. The living, spoken language is the grand stand-by. Books suggest or confirm, but we leain and grow in the presence of the living.
Need we now ask whether the study of languages affords opportunity for mental training? Who will presume to set bounds to its possibilities when every new form is necessarily a subject for comparison? and what faculty of man is too high to find unbounded room for play, and the most exquisite enjoyment in learning to distinguish innumerable tints before unknown to him? Not only is the course of study we have indicated the only possible one with the literary object in view, but it is emphatically the one which affords real mental cultare. Mental change of standpoint with regard to every thought and feeling is the one essential in language study; and it is by virtue of this circumstance alone that the study of language constitutes a real study. Miss this entirely, as we have done in the past, and what do we gain? Little wouder the study of language is regarded as a narrow one!

Classical students are fond of emphasizing the benefit to be derived from constant comparison and transference of thought, and rightly so; but would some classical specialist kindly inform us wherein German is inferior in this respect to Greek? For our own part we are firmly persuaded that German properly studied is superior to Greek or another dead language, inasmuch as the light and atmosphere peculiar to Greek are not available to the same extent that those peculiar to German are. In other words, it is next to impossible to place ourselves at the precise standpoints from which the Greek regarded his languageforms.
of each sub-department became known, the ranks of Science men would be very materially augmented. And augmented, be it remembered, by those who, from the stimulus thus given to work out the natural bent of their inclinations, unfettered by heavy additional requirements in the other branches of Science would be able to do more original work, and while earning praise and satisfaction to themselves. would add materially to the reputation and standing of the college.
Why not, indeed, establish a Faculty of Science, and allow students to take the degree of Bachelor of Science on the successful completion of the regular undergraduate course-the whole of which should be devoted to science exclusively? In America, those who attend the universities are not, as a rule, like their English cousins-persons of leisure. They cannot afford to spend more than four years at a university. They have no time for a post-graduate course. Why not let them graduate at once in the Faculty of Science? By all means let the standard be as high as in other graduating departments. Surely in University College, Science is of importance enough; and surely it has Professors distinguished enough, to warrant the creation of a Faculty of, and a special graduating department in, Science. But we do not press the point ; we merely throw it out as a suggestion.

However, we have confidence that the present unsatisfactory state of affairs will be remedied in time. The advance and importance of Science; the vastness of the field which it covers ; the interest attaching to its study; the masterly and profound expositions of its truths which we in the nineteenth century are fortunate enough to possess ; the attractions it offers for individual research, and the breadth of mental view thereby obtained; all these give Science a value and importance-extending to its different branches-which will have to be recognized, sooner or later, in University College, if she hopes to retain the position she now holds, of being the exponent and director of the highest educational thought and progress in this Province.

We have no doubt but that she will worthily fulfil the expectations formed of her. While the Senate is busy with the details of matriculation, and the requirements for entering University College, let it not lose sight of the interests and desires of those who have entered, and who certainly should be the first objects of its solicitude.

## NOVEMBER IN ALBERTA.

"A raw, cold, dreary, November day. The snow covers the prairie for miles, as far as the eye can see over the flat surface, with a shroud of white. A dark, cloudy, gray sky of a monotonous neutral tint, hangs like a pall above, and a biting north. ern blizzard, which drifts the fine snow before it, cuts one to the inmost core. A solitary figure struggles through the snowdrifts vainly striving to keep warm, under buckskins and furs. What a miserable lot have these 'shivering tenants of the frigid zone!'" Yes, my friend, very carefully drawn, and a very pretty fancy picture to show to your chums, as you sit with a glass of hot Fulton \& Michie 7 -year-old, over a Residence fireplace, and listen to the wind howling through the corridor, or rattling the windows of the "Lightning Express" rooms of the
third story.

I prefer sketching from nature :-I sit at the open windows and look towards the west. The Chinook wind, with the grateful mildness of the Pacific coast, blows gently in my face. The sky is cloudless, the air soft and warm, and the sun sets behind the purple undulations of the Porcupine Hills, and the sharp, ragged peaks of the mountains are clearly defined against the golden haze in the west. The prairie is still red and yellow and brown with the tints of autumn, subdued into a subtle harmony as they merge into the rich purples and blues of the middle distance. The whole bathed in the warm ligbt of the setting sun recalls the Indian-summer evenings of our old Canada.
Yonder mass of blue, showing blunt and square over the rise in the prairie, where it is scorched and blackened by recent fire, looks but a short hour's ride, but you may keep it in sight while for two days you journey on your sturdy pony to the south. It $i_{i}$ Chief Mountain, in the Territory of Montama. That sharp,
cone-like peak, delicately tinged with pink, with a few patches of snow on it, is Victoria Mountain; and how appropriate the name of Castle Mountain for that bold group of towers and turretted battlements, like some grand old feudal castle perched high on its inaccessible crag. Further on, where the mountains get gradually lower, is the Crow's Nest Pass, and then comes the long unbroken line of the Livingstone Range, all in deep shadow, until the nearer hills intervene, and the mountains are hidden, except for an occasional peak, more lofty than its fellows, which at first glance seems a cloud, just above the margin of the hills.
The sun sinks lower, and the light becomes fainter and fainter, until, at last, darkness settles down. Reluctantly I turn away from the window, with a prayer, that these glorious November days of cloudless skies, cheerful warmth, with their soft fresh winds and glorious sunsets, may last for ever.

Fort Macleod, N.W.T., 13th Nov., 1884.

## Univerṣity News.

## NOTICE

A meeting of graduates and undergraduates interested in the question of the appointment of professors and lecturers as examiners will be held in Moss Hall, on Tuesday next, at 4:30 p.m.

## LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

A meeting of the Society was beld on Friday evening, the 28 th $^{\text {th }}$ ult., of which, owing to it being generally understood that the meeting of that evening had been done a way with, no space was reserved for a report in our columns of last week. The meeting had been called to hear the decision of the President on the cor stitutionality of the proceedings at the meeting held on the Tues day previous. The President's ruling was that the order of the committee had been to call the special meeting tor the purpose of electing speakers, etc., for the approaching public debate, that the neglect to state on the bulletin the purpose for which the meeting had been called did not invalidate the order of the com mittee, and accordingly the discussion of any other business had been out of order.

The closing meeting of the year was held last evening, at 8 o'clock. Not more than fifteen members were present and even they appeared anything but animated. But as the evening advanced the benches filled up, interest increased, and when the Society ad journed shortly before midnight the 90 members who answered roll call were agreed that the meeting had been out of all comparison the best of the year.
The President occupied the chair, having by his side Mr. W. Macdonald, M.A., who was president in 1867 and whose presence lent much to the interest of the evening. Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The following notices of motion were given :-
By Mr. D. J. MacMurchy,-"That a committee be appointed to confer with the Y.M.C.A., as to the possibility of the Literat' Society having rooms in the proposed Y.M.C.A. building.
By Mr. H. E. Irwin,-"That in the opinion of the members of this Society the true development of Canada lies in the direction of an Independent Nationality."

By Mr. W. H. Hunter,-(I) "That in the opinion of this Society the awarding of prizes for Speakers and Readers tails to secure the benefits aimed at, and should be abolished. (2) That the money generously placed at the disposal of the $5^{\circ}$ ciety by the College Couneil might with great advantage be devoted to increased prizes for essays. (3) That the College Council be respecttully requested to give their consent to such an arrangement.
By Mr. F. J. Roche, respecting the omission from the College Prize List of the name of Mr. F. B. Hodgins, who was awarded the Prize for College Song.
A report was presented from the General Committee, ${ }^{8}$ conmending the addition of the following names to form the Con versazione Committee :
Graduates.--Prof. Wright, Messrs. Kingstord, Acheson, Creel man, A.McMurchy,McPherson,Gordon, McKay, Robinette,Bowes, McGillivray, Mulvey, Holmes, Cane, Frost.
derson, McLeod, Duff, Preston, Duff, Collins, Wilton, Weir, Tolmie, Muir, McGeary, Chisholm.

Third Year.-Messrs. Cameron, Owen, Chambers, Marshall, Needler, Youell, Thompson, Martin, Bradford, Elhot, Morphy, Clarke, White.
Second Year.-Messrs. Hardie, Hunter, Bruce, Hodgins, Reddin, Fère, McArthur, McCullough, Aikens, McMillan, Kent, Fitzgerald, and Keeler.

First Year. - Messrs. Gibson, Hodges, Jones, Aikens, Gale, Silverthorn, and Miller.

Mr. W. H. Hunter then read a caretully prepared essay, being a historical sketch of the life and career of the Indian Chief Tecumseh. It abounded in rich and interesting details, and was written in a vigorous and excellent style.
Mr. J. M. Baldwin followed, reading extracts from Lamb's Dissertation on a Roast Pig, and Mr. W. C. Chisholm rendered a humorous selection entttled "Jabberwock" in an entertaining manner.

A motion being made to dispense with the debate owing to absence of appointed speakers, an interesting discussion arose in which the selection of more popular subjects, and the rejection of the formalities of cut-and-dried debates were advocated.

The debate was then taken up, subject being, "the relative merits as a novelist of Thackeray and Dickens. Messrs. Holmes, Frost, B.A., Short, Mercer, and Waugh maintaining the superiority of the former, and Messrs. Reid, Garvin, and McMurchy that of the latter. The audience decided for Dickens by a majority of one.

The committee for revision of invitation list to the public debate presented a report which was adopted with some additions.

Mr. J. F. Edgar then moved, seconded by Mr. F. J. Roche, a vote of censure on The 'Varsity for the criticism passed last week on Mr. J. F. Thomson for his crooked dealings with the Society in the matter of the course of lectures delivered in Convocation Hall. It is needless to say that the Society was solid in its support of The 'Varsity's position, and only the hasty withdrawal of the motion prevented the passing of an amendment, moved by 'Mr. McKay, seconded by Mr. Duff, approving of the action of The 'Varsiry and censuring the conduct of said Mr. Thomson. The bad taste of Mr. Edgar, the treasurer of last year, in attempting to
publicly censure his successors without, as he acknowledged, even publicly censure his successors without, as he acknowledged, even
enquiring into the matter, was so apparent that it excited univerenquiring into the matter, was so apparent that it excited univer-
sal disgust. By true business effort our advertisements have been greatly increased, and by honesty of purpose in criticising whatever needs correction, be it ever so high or belong it to any person, party or clique, we have added and are adding to our subscribers. And we were glad to see our efforts thus appreciated by the undergraduate body.
A resolution was passed appointing Friday, 16th January, for a public debate, and the tollowing members elected to take part therein:--Essayist, W. M. Logan ; Reader, J. J. Elliott ; Speakers, L. P. Duff, McKay, Irwin, Kyles.
While the ballots were being counted Mr. Macdonald addressed the Society in a most entertaining and instructive speech, and one that was delightfully refreshing after the lengthened proceedings of the evening. His reterences to the earlier days of the Society and his assurance of the continued though perhaps unexpressed interest of ex-officers and graduates generally were thoroughly appreciated. Every member joined cordially in the vote of thanks to Mr . Macdonald. Hearty cheers were given for the president and our visitor, and the last meeting of 1884 ended by joining hands all around and singing lustily the song of "Auld
Lang Syne."
Y. M. C. A.

The average attendance for this term at our regular Thursday meeting has been 53, but this week there was a sad diminution in we find thenly about 23 in attendance. Searching for the reason we find that at the same hour Mr. Moody was holding a special meeting in the Metropolitan Church for ministers and Divinity
students. After.
After devotional exercises Mr. T. S. Cole-the well-known sec"Saved fror Canadian Associations-gave a Bible reading on sin. A very secondary aspect of Christianity is salvation trom the consequences of sin : the primary aspect is from sin itself. The
Christian man is saved "God hath is saved from wrath, which is a consequence of sin. "God hath not appofnted us to wrath, but to obtain salvation saved from Lord Jesus Christ." So writes Paul. Again he is trom judgment. Here he drew the distinction. Also he is saved ment, and standing before the great white throne.

At the conclusion of his interesting remarks, Mr. Cole conveyed to our Association a friendly greeting from the Christian Associations of both Queen's College and McGill. He said the Montreal students heard with pleasure of our proposed Hall, and hoped at no distant date to go and do likewise.
Our Association is neglectful of many needful things. One of the most needful is a class for the study of Scripture. Ninety-four College Associations in America have such organizations, and many of them are very much smaller than our own; e.g., one in Alabama has a total membership of 20 , one in Kansas has 16 , one in Vermont has in, and yet each sustains a class tor Bible study. At last we propose to do something. When the Easter term opens a class will be organized in Moss Hall tor a Sunday meeting. Our gatherings will be quite informal, and our great aim will be to understand the letter Paul wrote to the Romans many centuries ago.
Ot the articles in the magazines our Association has placed in the Reading Room, perhaps some of the most interesting are found in the Britis/h and Foreign Evangelical Review. Two contributions in the last number will well reward a little attention. One is on the "Annexation of Heaven," and the other treats of the "Religious belief of Shakespeare." Space forbids an additional remark about them.
Although on Monday over 200 tickets for Mr. Moody's meetings were procured for University students alone, there was not half a dozen left for distribution on Tuesday. On the latter day the great evangelist referred to three dark days he spent among students in the old country. We had fondly hoped he would spend an hour or so with some of our Canadian students, but our hopes were doomed to disappointment. However, we fancy Mr. Moody has not seen the last ot Toronto.
Next Thursday the topic of discussion is Andrew bringing his brother to the Master. It will be opened by Mr. A. J. McLeod. An invitation is extended to every student to be present, and as it is the last meeting for the term we hope Moss Hall will be filled.

## TEMPERANCE LEAGUE.

The third public meeting of the League was held in Moss Hall on Monday afternoon. The meeting was opened by the president giving a short report of the progress of the League during the past year. The report showed a total membership of 287, ns compared with last year's membership of 208, a gain of 33 per cent.; 18 pledges have been returned since the commencement, and since the ist ot October $9^{\circ}$ new members have joined, 85 of whom have taken the Total Abstinence pledge. Of the 287 members, 45 are graduates and 243 undergraduates, 262 are total abstainers, and 25 have taken the moderate pledge. Of last year's 208 members 183 were total abstainers, and 25 had taken the modified pledge. The total abstainers thus show a gain of 46 per cent., and the moderates a gain of nil.
Prof. Young then took the chair and introduced the speakers. Mr . N. W. Hoyles, M.A., gave a bright, telling address, alluding to the great growth of the temperance cause in England, especially among the more educated classes. He mentioned the fact that the best bat of Cambridge and the stroke of the Oxford eight were both total abstainers, and were proud to have it known.

Dr. Oldright then made a very instructive speech on temperance as seen from the medical point of view, stating the bad effects of alcohol, bothphysiologically and pathologically. He maintained the efficacy of inebriate asylums, and believed in the enforced detention of confirmed drunkards therein.
Mr. J. J. McLaren, Q.C., Solicitor for the Scott Act, spoke last. He also alluded to the great spread of temperance ideas, but thought that Canada was as yet ahead of England in that respect. Mr. McLaren laid great stress on the fallacy of the arguments brought torward by the brewers as to the decrease of drunkenness which fould be brought about by the substitution of beer and light wines for ardent spirits. The experiment, he said, had beentried in England with respect to beer some fifty years ago, and had been proved a lamentable tailure. As to the non-injurious effects of light wines he had seen as degrading drunkenness in Rome and Naples as in many of the northern parts of Europe.
The President of the League took the chair, when a vote of thanks to the chairman and speakers was moved by Mr. McKay, and carried with applause. The attendance was good, at least 150 being present.

## MODERN LANGUAGE CLUB.

A well attended and successful English meeting was held Tuesday evening, December 2ud, at 8 p.m., Mr. T. Rowan, Vice-President, in the chair. After disposing of the business part of the
programme, Mr. C. Whitham, B.A., was moved into the chair and presided during the rest of the evening. Mr. H. T. Hamilton then gave a short reading from Byron, which was well received and well rendered. Mr. J. Squair, B.A., then delivered a most interesting and entertaining essay upon the study of literature. The essay will appear in full in a future issue. After the conclusion of the essay, Mr. T. Rowan gave a recitation entitled "The Polish Boy," in a manner that won for him the applause of the audience. A discussion then ensued upon the subject of defects in the modern language course. The debate was very animated and was taken part in by all the members present. The general tone of the debate was that the present modern language course was very unsatisfactory. On motion of H . Chamberlain, seconded by F. F. McPherson, a committee consisting of Messrs. H. I. Hamilton, Blackstcck, Rowan and the mover and seconder was appointed to draft a resolution for presentation to the University Senate, expressing the views of the modern language students on the subject, the resolution to be submitted to the Society at its next meeting. In the discussion Messrs. Hamilton, McPherson, Rowan, Elliot, Ferguson, Harley and others took part. After a hearty vote of thanks had been passed to Messrs. Squair and Whetham the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be held on Monday, December 9th, at 4:15 p.m.

## ROTTEN ROW.

Mr. J. G. Hoimes resolved to free himself from the importunities of boarding-house keepers, came into Residence last weekThere is now only one vacant room-a pleasing commentary on the present management.
The second year table has a new waiter whose chief recommendation seems to be his verdancy.
The freshman who took up his bed and walked, or rather walked (down) and took up his bed, reports the weather a little too damp for camping out.

There used to be some talk of starting "the Owls" again. Will the matter end in talk ?

## THE COMPANY.

At a meeting of the ex-members of the University Rifle Corps, K Coy. Q.O.R., held on Thursday evening, it was resolved to send a copy of the following circular to all ex-members of the Com-pany:-

## University College, Toronto,

 Dec. $4^{\text {th }}, 1884$.Dear Sir:-For the past 16 years there has always been a Challenge Trophy in the possession of the University Rifless for competition at their annual rifle match.
These trophies have at different times been finally won, and a meeting of ex-members of the Company was called on the above date to consider the best means of providing another to replace the last.

It was there decided to give all ex-members an opportunity of contributing towards this object, and you are therefore requested to remit to the undersigned, at your earliest convenience, any amount you may wish to subscribe for the above purpose.

On behalf of the Committee,
J. M. Delamere, Chairman.
(Legislative Assembly), Toronto.

## Opinions Current and Otherwise.

No literary critic, in his service of the public, has any right to separate literature and morals, any more than an art critic in his service of the public has any right to separate art and morals. Art and literature considered by themselves are one thing, considered in relation to the public good they are quite another. We shall never pionounce morally bad literature good, merely because it is "classical."-The Literary World.

The whole enterprise of this (American) nation is not illustrated by a thought; it is not warmed by a sentiment; there is nothing in it for which a man should lay down his life, nor even his gloves.

To have done anything by which you earned money merely, is to have been idle and worse.

Money might be of great service to me, but the difficulty now is that I do not improve my opportunities, and therefore am not prepared to have my opportunities increased:-Henry David Thereau.

When we consider how tormidable are the industrial, social and political problems with which the next generation must grap; ple . . . we can hardly fail to appreciate the importance of offering to large numbers of American students ample facilities for learning all that is known of economic science. There can be no pretence that political economy is an easy subject, or that it affords no mental discipline.

It is by tar the most complex and difficult of the sciences of which modern education has to take account.

Neither can it be justly called a material or utilitariau sul.ject; for it is tull of grave moral problems, and deals with many questions of public honor and duty.-President Eliot.

## Editor's Table

## A POEM THAT WALT WHITMAN NEVER PUBLISHED.

The following parody on Walt Whitman's " poems" is decidedly the best thing of its kind that wo have seen for some time. It appears in The Fate of Mansfield IIumphreys, a novel bs Aichard Grant White, the well-known Shakesperian writer.
Mr. Washington Adams, who is being passed off at the resi* dence of an English nobleman as a typical American, produces the piece out of his pocket as "one that Walt Whitman's never published yet ; but I kerry it around," he says, "t to read sorter b'tween whiles."

## I happify myself.

I am considerable of a man. I am some. You are also some. We all are considerable ; all are some.
Put all of you and all of me together and agitate our particles by rub bing us up into eternal smash, and we should still be some. No, more than some, but no less.
Particularly some, some particularly ; some in general, generally some ; but always some, without mitigation distinctly some.
O etcrnal circles, O squares, O triangles, O hypothenuses, $O$ centres, 0 circumferences, diameters, radiuses, arcs, sines, co-sines, tant gents, parallelograms and parrallelopipedons, O pipes that are not parallel, furnace pipes, sewer pipes, meerschaum pipes, briarwood pipes, clay pipes; O matches, O fire, and coal-scuttle and shovel and tongs and fender, and ashes, and dust and dirt ${ }^{\text {! }}$ O ceverything! O nothing!
O myself! O yourself!
O my eye!
I tell you the truth. Salut!
I am not to be bluffed off. No sir!
I am large, hairy, earthy, smell of the soil, am big in the shouldets narrow in the flank, strong in the knces, and of an inquiring and communicative disposition.
Also instructive in my propensities; given to contemplation ; and able to lift anything that is not too heavy.
Listen to me and I will do you good.
Loafe with me and I will do you bettcr.
And if any man gets ahead ot me he will find me after him.
Vale!
We received recently a request from the editor of the Harvard Daily Crimson to prepare an article on "Football in Canada" for publication in the Crimson. We are promised in return a contri. bution for our columns on "Football in the United States." We have accepted the proposal for the interchange of articles, and hope soon to present to our readers what promises to be a most interesting paper on a very popular subject. Meanwhile, oul horse reporter is busy working up our side of the case. The editor thus concludes his letter:-" "I am sorry to say that the present outlook for football at Harvard is very discouraging The Faculty are much opposed to the game as at present played
and threaten to stop it before another season begins." What nuisance Faculties are, anyway! Why can't they stick to their musty old text books and let sport alone! The editor then ex presses a hope that "this may not be the last of the interchange bet ween us"-a wish which we most cordially echo.

In Mr. Edmund Yates' "Fifty Years of London Late," to whic we shall have occasion to refer again, he makes the following terence to the Shakosperian reciter who has been delighting
audiences in Conforation audiences in Convocation Hall recently:-"In the secon
amateur pantomime, Mr. Bidwell's place as Harlequin was filled by Mr. Samuel Brandram, now so well known as an exponent of Shakespeare." Certainly not an inappropriate beginning to a career, the object of which is the portrayal of the varied creations of the "myriad-minded" Spakespeare.

Since the appearance of the article in last week's 'Varsity on the Library, the assistants have been vaiuly endeavouring to determine which is the "Russian autocrat" and which the "pecunious Jew." Impecunious is suggested as a better reading in the latter case.

By the unintentional omission of a sonnet from the beginning of the article on that subject by "Pro Grege," which appeared in our issue of Nov. i5, several sentences and reterences were rendered meaningless. We apologize to our contributor for the inadvertence.

## Correspondence.

## PROFESSORS AS EXAMINERS.

To the Editor of The 'Varsity:
Sir,-I understand that it is proposed to call a general meeting students on Thursday, the gth inst., at 4.30 p.m., with a view to petitioning the Senate in reterence to the selection of examiners from college lecturers, fellows, \&c. As this is a growing evil and threatens to assume alarming proportions, a large and thoroughly representative gathering is qreatly to be desired. I would suggest that the graduates be invited to co-operate. Every graduate alive to the interests of the University won'd doubtless cheerfully assist in remedying what must ultimately result in serious injury to the University. Now is the proper time for such a movemeat. Let the Students show that they are in earnest.
W. H.

## MODERN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT.

To the Editor of The 'Varsity.
Sir,--From a leader in your last edition I sce evidences of a revival of the abuse of Modern Languages as a department. It seems to me that the controversialists on the opposing side are somewhat barren of legitimate issue. The benefit to be gained by taking a 'language course ' presents itself somewhat as follows :--
(, )
(2.) Possession of the key to universal knowledge-Language.
the (2.) The comprehension of the thoughts of great thinkers and diction, (3).
of lingui) The analysis of language itself, or, in other words, the study deal wistic anatomy, -that is to say, language departmentschiefly with what is the outgrowth of Man; other departments, mer ty with the less contradictory realities of Nature. The former teach us to unravel the complex and predict the uncertain,the latter to observe the regular and calmly generalize. The diffbetwe between classics and moderns is the same as the difference between ancient and modern history. The one is the continuaeducating other. It is for the average student to consider the educating power of these and choose accordingly, not being led away by philosophical mysticism, big names or the fanatical advocacy of the narrow-minded.
J. H. Burnham.

Peterborough.

## LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

To the Editor of THE 'VARSITY:-
$\mathrm{D}_{\text {Ear }} \mathrm{S}_{\text {Ir }}$,-I I would heartily echo the sentiments of "Onlooker" in your last issue. The Society has evidently forgotton its object, Moss it is so manifestly neglecting its functions. Time-honored Moss Hall, the weekly arena ot an assemblage supposed to "encourage literary and scientific, pursuits," is quickly degererating into a pandemonium of party spirits, where party strite and elecbers, will are rehashed and served up to the unfortunate memWhether for thil. Every motion that is brought betore the chair,
a party plattorm weltare or detriment of the Society, is discussed on When platform.
him our a man claims freedom of speech and the Society uphold
the learding prident is powerless, who then is to blame? Evidently
leading spirits on each side, who in their open discussion of
moot and party-foreign questions hurl in one another's faces party slanders and bribery and corruption accusations.
In a Society with such an object as ours, there is no necessity for party spirit, when destruction to all beneficial organization is its only issue.
The horrid customs of which both parties stand accused will never be crushed by a weekly airing in our debating hall. The practice of public speaking will be indulged in only by those venturesome members who will strike out into the mire of party politics and fight with the hand of slander and mouth of corruption their own fellow members.
The public who periodically grace our college halls will cease attendance on assemblies where their intellectual nature, far trom being feasted, is almost nauseated. Above all, our undergraduates will take no further interest in a society whose only programme is uproar, and whose whole existence is for party.
Let our leaders step down from this miserable platform, reft of either policy or the Alma Mater's interest, and form a society which will taithfully carry out its objects and which will live for the good of its members.
H.

## UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.

To the Editor of The Varsity :-
Dear Sir,-I beg leave to heartily subscribe my assent to the sentiments expressed in your last week's issue, on the question of the library. No one can duubt that a well-furnished library with regulations suited to the convenience of those whom it is supposed to serve, ought to be one of the most efficient instruments in a course of collegiate education. It is during their college career that men must lay the foundation of that wide reading and information which are essential to the equipment of an educated man. It is then that they must form their tastes and habits of study. It is then that they have time to roam unrestrained and at leisure over fertile and fragrant fields, of which in atter life, they at best get only a glimpse. And it is only when a well-stocked and carefully-selected iibrary is placed easily within their reach that they can give free rein to their inclinations.
That our own library is lacking in many departments in the mere matter of books is well-known. The difficulty of judicious selection in all departments is certainly great, and money does not flow like water about Toronto University. But there is no doubt that in many respects our library is well equipped. As a collection of general literature, it leaves, I fancy, little to be desired. It contains no doubt a multitude of readable and valuable works on subjects whose study should come within the range of a liberal education.
Why then is it, that so few undergraduates make use of it except to obtain books bearing directiy on curriculum work. I have no doubt that you are right in ascribing this state of affairs to the vexatious restrictions imposed by the Library Committee. The whole method of working seems to be conceived in a spirit of hostility. Undergraduates, instead of being encouraged and assisted, are hampered in every possible way in the use of books. Our system of examinations and scholarships seems to have for its deliberate object the transformation of spontaneous minds into mechanical text-book grinders. The Library Committee is determined to facilitate the process, and impulses to wider and more genial cultivation are met by ungracious serving and calamitous fines. With thanks for space,

Yours \&c.,
University College, Dec. $4^{\text {th }}$.
Reader.

## Placee-aux-9)ames.

Forty young ladies are candidates for admission to the Harvard Annex this year.
Of eight $\$ 200$ scholarships recently awarded at Cornell, four went to lady students.
The ladies of the Elmira college are discussing the question of "Higher Education for Men."
The Associate Professor in Mathematics and the Associate Professor in Botany in the new Bryn Mawr College at Philadelphia are women. The new university at Stockholm has established a professorship of mathematics expressly for a woman. This is Mrs. Dr. Sophie Kowalevski, whose paper on partial differential equations was recognized as sufficiently important to warrant the establishment of a chair.

A Chinese girl, Hung King Eng, is studying English branches at the Ohio Wesleyan University. She intends to become a doctor for the sake of the women of her own country.

Adelbert College, Cleveland, has had about twenty young women in its classes. The attempt was recontly made to have the doors closed against female students ; bnt, after a somewhat exciting contest, the trustees by a vote of 12 to 6 have decided to continue the policy of Co-education.

## A spunky young lady at Vassar <br> Was hailed in the street by a chasseur : <br> She flung a brickbat, <br> Which upset him, and that

Was the last time he wanted to sass her.-Ex.
Female education is making rapid progress in India, intelligent and wealthy natives doing much to advanceit. A Bombay merchant has lately given fifteen thousand rupees towards the foundation of a girls' school; and the Maharaja of Travancore has given a large sum in aid of female medical education. - $E x$.
October 22nd last was a memorable day in the history of Irish education. On that day, for the first time in Ireland, Irish women received degrees in the Irish Uuiversity, Dublin. The robed and hooded ladies were cheered to the echo on receiving their diplomas from the venerable Chancellor, the Duke of Abercorn.

Some time ago the Montreal Witness, referring to the fact that eleven women were then attending the lectures given under the auspices of McGtill College, in compliance with the conditions of Mr. D. A. Smith's donation, argued that this comparatively large number was an indication of the preference of women for separate instruction when it is obtainable. The validity of this inference was disputed by Mr. William Houston in a letter to the Witness, in the course of which he points out that MeGill's true policy would be to use Mr. Smith's donation for the improvement of its staff, laboratories, and libraries, and allow the women to attend lectures along with the members of the other sex. This communication called out a reply from Prof. Murray, of McGill, which is self-explanatory, and which we append as an interesting contribution to the great controversy over the higher education of women.

## (To the Editor of the Witness.)

Sir,-My attention has been called to a letter in your issue of the 12th inst. by Mr. Houston. of Toronto, on the "Higher Education of Women." From that letter, as well as from recent utterances in some of your contemporaries on the subject, it appears that an erroneous impression prevails with regard to the action of McGill University in opening certain classes for women. It is true that a temporary arrangement has been made to meet the emergency of a request on the part of some young ladies to be admitted to the advantages of the University, but the corporation has explicitly refused to commit itself to the institution of a separate college or a separate course of lectures for women, and, in accepting the munificent gift of the Hon. Donald A. Smith, stipulated that it should be applied to the general purpose of "the higher education of women." I do not wish to enter here on the discussion of a question which is still waiting the discussion of the corporation; tut I may add that I sympathize with every word that Mr. Houston utters against a policy which would not only be financially ruinous to the university, but would seriously impair its intelleotual and moral efficiency.
Montreal, November 26th, 1884.
J. Clarke Mubray.

## Our Wallet.

Can a prestidigiateur's humor be said to run in a jug(u)lar's vein ?-Ex.
Prof.-" What is supposed to ** ${ }^{* *}$ the condition of the earth ?" Student-" Pasty and vicious."-Ex.

A disappointed young man says he wishes he was a rumor, because a rumor soon gains currency, which he never does.
Prof.—"Translate Ohne auf $\stackrel{\text { dem }}{ }$ Spott zu achten." Student, relying on his wit.-"Not acting on the spot."-Ex.

Lecture in general chemistry. Prof.-"I will now treat," etc. B. (half aroused by the familiar sound)-" Good f'r you, ol' boy."

A banana skin lay on a grocer's floor. "What are you doing there ?" asked the scales, peeping over the edge of the counter. "Oh, I am lying in wait for the grocer.". "Pshaw!" said the scales, "I've been doing that for years."- Ex.

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"On what grounds do you leave me without the customary week's notice?" indignantly asked a thirteenth-ward boarding. house mistress of a leaving boarder. "Coffe日 grounds, madam; coffee grounds," he tartly replied.-Ex.

Professor Sylvester, the great mathematician, who has lately been recalled to England from Johns Hopkins University, is a trifle absent-minded. Once returning to Baltimore from a vacation in England he got as far as Philadelphia when he missed a paper on which he had made some important calculations. Turning on his heel he went immediately back to England for it, and was just leaving the steamer at Liverpool when he found the missing paper in the pocket of the coat he had been wearing all the time. $H_{9}$ had not noticed it there before because he had been so deeply absorbed in the problems, how to turn a hollow sphere inside out without hreaking the surface, and how to separate inter-linked rings without catting them, both of which feats he claimed would be possible if only mathematics dealt with four dimensions instead of three.—Ex.
In view of the numerous burglaries recently committed in out city, and for the benefit of our unprotected citizens, we publish the following, as a suggestion for their comfort and convenience, in the absence of police protection :-
A provident and business-like American, on leaving the city for a trip with his family, placed a placard just inside the hall door, couched in the following language: "To burglars or those intending to burgle. All my plated jewellery and other valuables are in the Safe Deposit Company's vaults. The trunks, cupboards, etc., contain nothing but second-hand clothing and similar matters too bulky to remove, on which you would realize comparatively little. The keys are in the left hand top drawer of the sideboard-if you doubt my word. You will also find there is a certified cheque to bearer for fifty dollars, which will remunerate you for your loss of time and disappointment. Please wipe your feet on the mat, and don't spill any candle-
grease on the carpet."-Ex.

## Poet's Corner.

## IN A MIRROR.

Not my lady herself I see, Only her image in yonder glass,
None so fair in my eyes as she, Maidens all she doth outpass.
And a picture rare and sweet she makes,
In the clear cold light of the wintry day ;
As she watches the first few feathery flakes
Of the whirling snow in its noiseless play.
Lightly and straight, in the full grey light,
My lady stands in a robe of sheen :
Backed by the curtains' filmy white,
The queenly figure is dimly seen.
Only the small and shapely head,
With its treasure of dark smooth-knotted hair,
And the olve face with the lips so red,
Show clearly and plain in the mirror there.
Nothing her sweet, cold peace may break,
Steadfast and calm are her eyes alway,
As the morning hush of an inward lake,
And her thoughts are worlds away.
I gaze, the wild hope within me dies,
But, oh ! she is very fair to see.
The doom in those calm and steadfast eyes
Is-they ne'er can lighten with lowe
Is-they ne'er can lighten with love for me.

[^0]REV. DR. WILD,
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