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THE VARSITY

A Weekly Journal of Literature, University Thought and Events.

Vol. XI.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, MARCH 22, 1892.

No. 21.

Editorial Comments.



THE time has come for us to vacate the editorial chair and give place to another. To say that we are sorry is expressing our feelings very mildly, and does not adequately convey our regrets in giving up a position which has yielded us so much pleasure.

Whether or not we have given general satisfaction is a question we are unable to answer; still if we have done so in any small degree we feel satisfied and are fully compensated for our labors on behalf of our subscribers. We have done our best, be it small or great, to make THE VARSITY interesting and not allow it to fall below the high standard which it occupied before we officially took hold of the quill. We leave our readers to judge the degree of success which has attended our efforts on your behalf. We have had our trials and vicissitudes, our successes and failures, but this is the lot of editors in general, and by no means peculiar to us.

We must thank our many contributors for their great assistance in making THE VARSITY interesting to our numerous readers; our advertisers for their promptness in responding to our solicitations; our readers for their leniency in dealing with any indiscretion on our part; and the student-body at large for their enthusiastic support.

It yields us the greatest pleasure to leave the paper in such good hands for the coming year. Mr. Hellems, the newly appointed editor-in-chief, has been our right-hand man throughout the year, and under his control we prophesy a brilliant career for VARSITY during the next academic year.

The assistants who have been selected are, in our opinion, the very best obtainable, as each has contributed largely towards making the journal a success during our term of office. Mr. Anderson will make a good successor to Mr. Odell, who has brought the finances of THE VARSITY to such a happy termination.

The new new Directorate and Editorial staff are composed of good men; consequently, with the hearty support of the student-body, we may expect great things in the future. Among the names of the sub-editors will be found prominent that of Mr. R. S. Strath, whose sound and unerring judgment has been our greatest safeguard in the past, and we may predict a more than ordinary successful era in the history of VARSITY as the result of the happy coalition of his abilities with those of Mr. Hellems. Mr. D. M. Duncan will make a worthy successor to Mr. R. E. Hooper as Sporting Editor. The valuable services of Mr. S. J. Robertson will be continued next year, and Mr. S. J. McLean will be a worthy successor to Mr. Hellems as the chief editor's right-hand man.

The elections are over. Let us now in our calmer moments view the contest from an unprejudiced standpoint and note the lessons to be learned therefrom.

Firstly, the services of the "brute force" committee should be dispensed with for ever, as its usefulness, if it ever had any, is gone. We do not say this because we happen to belong to the vanquished party, but because we have seen the evils resulting from the existence of such a body.

We heard it said by a prominent member of the victorious party that their unusual success was due to the excellent service rendered by their "dynamics corps." Whether he was right in thus attributing their success to such a cause we will not venture to express an opinion, but we do say that, according to our view, their large majorities were due, in a great measure, to this cause. The successful candidates would not have defeated their opponents so badly had the voters been allowed to freely express their desires at the polls.

The leader of the successful "brute force" contingent asserted in our hearing that it had been his intention to block the door in such a way that after all his followers had voted, none other should enter, and thus close the poll before the vanquished party had time to record their votes. This may seem unjust on the face of it, but since there was no tacit understanding between the two parties respecting this, and such a custom was adhered to in former years, thus establishing a precedent, no blame can be attached to him for his actions.

The question is, should such a thing be allowed? Should "brute force" render null and void the voice of a large section of the University electorate? Besides this, how are the finances of the Literary Society affected by such proceedings? We venture to assert that the Society is at least \$75 the poorer on account of the actions of this corps, because a great many left the polls without voting and others paired off, the Society being the loser in both cases.

Is this desirable? The object of having an election is, according to some, the filling of the "iron boxes" of the Literary Society. Such a laudable object is not attained on account of the *valuable* services rendered by this "moral suasion" detachment. Why not have two doors of entry—one through which the pugilists may enter and another for the more peaceable citizens?

Another evil. The marking of ballots by scrutineers should be dispensed with. (Now, mark you, both sides did this.) Each voter should be compelled to go into a room by himself, mark his ballot, fold it up and put it in the box himself. If either scrutineer wish to pay the fees of a voter, let him do so, but do not allow him to interfere in any way with the voter's privileges. This delightful uncertainty as to how the voter marked his ballot would discourage these unchristian proceedings and this venerated sort of bribery. Our worthy Chancellor, Hon. Edward Blake, in his speech at Convocation last fall regretted very much that the Literary Society should resort to such means to fill its treasury.

In order that there may be no offence given, we have not allowed the name of either party to appear in this issue of VARSITY. We heard no grumbling about our last issue which appeared in the heat of the fight, and hope that this issue may have the same fate.

THE MOTHER'S PRAYER.

Dedicated to Miss Agnes Knox.

Within a hushed and darkened room
 A baby lay a-sleeping ;
 And o'er his little fevered bed
 A mother knelt a-weeping.
 God only knows what mothers bear ;
 He sees their hearts with anguish tear ;
 He hears them gasp "the mother's" prayer,—
 "God save my baby boy."

God answers prayer ; the babe got well ;
 He had much better died.
 He grew a reckless, lustful man,
 And left the fireside.
 He wandered homeless far away ;
 His father only hoped he'd stay,
 But mother still knelt down to pray,—
 "God save my baby boy."

Within a hushed and darkened room
 A mother lay a-sleeping,
 And o'er her tear-stained, fevered bed
 Her "baby" knelt a-weeping.
 He kissed her forehead, smoothed her hair,
 But she, unconscious he was there,
 Kept breathing deep her dying prayer,—
 "God save my baby boy." JAY KOBBS.

PARSIFAL AT BAYREUTH.



AYREUTH, on the morning after my arrival, presented an exceptionally gay and animated appearance; as the month of Wagnerian opera was about to begin, and representatives of every nation had come to honor the achievements of that great genius, Richard Wagner. The town, which has about thirty thousand inhabitants, is the capital of Upper Franconia, and was, until 1769, the residence of the Margraves of Brandenburg-Culmbach. On the extinction of the Bayreuth line it became the property of the Ansbach family, was afterwards ceded to Prussia, and finally became the property of the King of Bavaria, in whose possession it still remains. It is a quiet, unpretending Bavarian town, with its Old Palace, its New Palace and its unimposing Gothic church, and if Wagner had not made it his home would, in all probability, have remained, comparatively speaking, unknown.

Wagner first took up his abode in Bayreuth in 1872. His house, *Wahnfried*, a square modern German building, stands in a large garden, while a beautiful shady avenue leads from the gate to the door, above which is the inscription, *Hier wo mein Wännen Frieden fand, Wahnfried sei dieses Haus von mir benannt*, and above this is a drawing of Wotan as a wanderer. His grave, which is covered by a large marble slab, lies at the back of the house, and a bust of his patron, the mad but art-loving King Ludwig of Bavaria, stands at the head of the avenue.

In August, 1876, the first *Festspiel* was given at Bayreuth, when the *Ring des Nibelungen* was presented with great *éclat*. *Parsifal*, which was first presented in July, 1882, also met with great success, and since that time has been given nearly every year, usually with only one of his other works, but last year *Tristan and Isolde* and *Tännhäuser* were both given, and this I believe another has been added.

At Bayreuth one hears the best Wagnerian opera singers on the continent, and though *Parsifal* itself, which may not be given anywhere else, is of course a great attraction, yet the perfection of the whole representation is a source of infinite pleasure to all. The singers all sing by request of Frau Wagner, who is a most energetic *intendante*, and to sing at Bayreuth is, on the continent, to

reach the apex of a musical career, though of course Wagnerian music needs a peculiar style of singing. The list of singers, directors, leaders, etc., is announced usually in April or May, and seats must be secured as early as February or March.

The performances, which are given for one month each year, usually from the middle of July until the middle of August, begin at four o'clock in the afternoon and last until about ten, though a pause of one hour is given between each act for refreshment and rest.

The opera-house, built in 1873 from designs by Wagner himself, is situated on rising ground to the north of the town. It is approached by a pretty drive bordered with shade trees, and this, when the festival is in progress, reminds one somewhat of the *Bois de Bologne* or the *Prater* in Vienna. The building itself is not remarkable for its architectural beauty, but its acoustic properties are excellent.

A blare of trumpets loudly announces to us that the performance is about to begin; a novel method, but one to be sure in keeping with the surroundings. The building is quite as plain within as it is without, and the stage breaks boldly before one, unrelieved by any gradual narrowing by boxes. The seats rise in tiers, and the *Logen* for the princes are at the back; the orchestra is hidden

Wolfram von Eschelbach's Franco-German epic, one of the most glorious of mediæval times, gave Wagner the subject for his greatest musical drama. He himself, greatly grieved at the depth to which dramatic art in Germany had fallen, and, convinced that writings and exhortations were of no avail, decided that a new model must be given by which German dramatic art might be purged of its frivolity and emptiness. His *Ring des Nibelungen*, which is taken from the ancient *Nibelungenlied*, shows us that stage of heroic writings just before the appearance of Christianity. *Parsifal*, on the other hand, taken from Wolfram von Eschelbach's greatest heroic, presents to us Christianity just making her appearance in epic verse. In the *Ring des Nibelungen* the great deeds of the Scandinavian heroes are brought vividly before us in an all-powerful and impressive brilliant musical representation: In *Parsifal*, however, we see Christianity personified as pity, exerting, with her sisters, faith, hope and charity, their softening and refining influences, and presenting to us a picture hallowed by its symbolic relation to a greater event. Heine has well said that early Christianity was a concordat between church and state, by which the intellect was the *de jure* master, but the senses were to be master *de facto*: but in *Parsifal* we see the intellect master both *de jure* and *de facto*. A tale in which pity and charity played such prominent parts appealed strongly to Wagner, who had too often suffered from the coldness and unfriendliness of the world. The Knights of the Holy Grail, pure and unstained, guarding with their lives the chalice from which our Saviour had taken the last communion, and in which Joseph of Aramathæa had caught the precious life-blood, presented a picture strong and capable of a great purifying influence, and qualified, if anything was, to effect that cleansing and purification of which German drama stood at that time so much in need.

A death-like silence is observed throughout the whole performance, and the effect is awe-inspiring in the extreme. The music built up by that skilled hand treats in a masterly way the various themes of sadness, faith, inspiration, etc., and its effect combined with that of the grand scenic display strongly impresses one with a feeling of veneration and respectful awe.

Trista und Isolde and *Tännhäuser* do not inspire us with that feeling of reference which clings about a drama like *Parsifal*: in them love plays an important part, but it is earthly love and religious inspiration is wanting. Thus *Parsifal* is the great charm of Bayreuth, and those who see it depart elevated in thought, more loyal in their devotion to music and high art, but above all deeply impressed by the mighty talent, ability and genius of Richard Wagner.

H. P. BIGGAR, '94.

OF INTEREST TO UNIVERSITY MEN.

Our venerable President has received from Australia a copy of the report of a Committee of the House of Assembly made in 1828, which among other things sets out some of the Provisions of the Charter of King's College, now Toronto University. The following are interesting:—

"The Bishop of the Diocese is to be visitor, and as such may disapprove of the by-laws made for the College by the College Council, which thereby become void, unless his Majesty, in Privy Council, afterwards reverses this order; the Governor of the Province is to be Chancellor; the President is to be a Minister in Holy Orders, of the Church of England. The Corporation is to consist of the Chancellor and scholars of King's College, and is authorized to take and hold real estate, not exceeding the annual value of £15,000 sterling. The College Council is to consist of the Chancellor, President, and seven other persons, who are to be members of the Church of England and to sign the Thirty-nine Articles of that Church: the Council under certain restrictions are to make by-laws for the College; one of these restrictions is, that no religious test or qualification shall be required of, or appointed for, any person admitted or matriculated as scholar in the College, except that those admitted to the degree of D.D. shall take the same declaration and subscriptions, and take the same oaths as are required of persons admitted to any degree of divinity in the University of Oxford. The Chancellor, President, and Professors of the College, and all persons admitted in the College to the degree of M.A., or to any degree in Medicine, Law or Divinity, who from the time of such admission shall pay the annual sum of 20s. sterling towards the support of the College, are to be members of the Convocation. His Majesty has been pleased to grant an endowment for the University of 225,944 acres of the Crown lands, and to appropriate from the revenue of the Crown £1000 annually for 16 years, for the erection of the buildings; several religious societies in England have made contributions for the purchase of books and for the foundation of scholarships for the missionaries to the Indian tribes.

"By the Provincial Statute 60, Geo. III., Chap. 2, it is enacted, that whenever an University shall be organized, and in operation as a Seminary of learning, in this Province, and in conformity to the rules and statutes of similar institutions in Great Britain, it shall and be lawful for the Governor of this Province to declare, by proclamation, the tract of land appended to such University to be a Town or Township, by such name as to him shall seem meet, and such Town or Township shall be represented in Parliament by one Member—provided that no person shall be permitted to vote for such Member, who, in addition to the prescribed qualifications for a voter, is not a member of the Convocation of the said University."

From the Report of the President and Treasurer of Harvard College one learns many things. The following may be useful to our men:—

"The common opinion that Harvard University is mainly an institution for the well-to-do is far from being correct. From statistics concerning the College Class of 1891 it appears that nearly eleven per cent. of those who replied to inquiries about their annual expenditure—excluding those who board at home—spent less than \$500 a year. Only eleven per cent. of that class were sons of Harvard graduates, and only fifteen per cent. were sons of graduates of other colleges."

The authorities of the University have established a boarding hall, and consider that they have achieved a triumph in reducing the expense, for meals only, to about \$4 per week.

"The degree of Master of Arts was given (in Harvard), for a long series of years ending with 1872, to any Bachelor of Arts of three years' standing on the payment of a small fee, and with no requirement whatever of residence or study additional to that already implied in the degree

of A.B. The establishment of a very moderate requirement for A.M. was a great advance on this very discreditable condition of things, for which the only excuse was that it had existed for a time beyond the memory of any man then living. The requirement adopted in 1872 was then felt to be as severe as the sentiment of a generation which attached little value to the degree of A.M. would bear; and at the same time to be the slightest that could worthily be imposed. It was one year of residence and study in approved courses, additional to the residence and study required for A.B. Some time later the Academic Council voted that they would approve for A.M. only courses of *advanced grade*, and the examination must be passed with *high credit*.

It is interesting to note what large sums are annually given to Harvard by friends of the Institution.

The number of postgraduate students in the Graduate School is 132; and 36 graduates of other Universities in addition to these are enrolled as undergraduates in Harvard. The increase in the library and departmental libraries is so great as to require an extension of buildings.

HOW UNSELFISH THEY ARE.

People are always rushing in the sanctum with the latest story. Barney Riggs slammed the door after him in his anxiety to be ahead of Algernon Booby. "Sit down, Barney," I said, severely. "I cannot listen to you just now." Then he guffawed and kept on guffawing. I hurried my work so as to stop him laughing. The immediate consequence of the hurry was that I stuck the mucilage-brush in the ink bottle, and then, looking around for somewhere to dip the pen in, took the mucilage bottle for ink. Barney thought that was very funny, and I told him that if that was his idea of a joke his story would keep. There is no snubbing Barney though, and he proceeded. "I was behind one of the alcoves in the library at the Osgoode Hall ball. (No. I was alone. I was so.) And presently I heard voices in front of me. (No, I did not. I stayed there. So would you have.) And there was a girl speaking (she stopped though, occasionally), and she said: (How could I get out when I had ripped my coat up the back?)

"I love your waltzing, Frank dear. I feel so selfish having all your waltzes to myself."

"Then he said: 'Dearest,' (I had my ears covered, of course, all the time, but they spoke so loud I couldn't help hearing,) 'who else would I give my waltzes to but you.'

"But there is Mary T—, poor girl! She has so few partners, and I should like her to have a dance with you, just to see what a waltz really is.' (She did so say that. They're engaged. I know them both. No, I won't tell you who they are.)

"But I can't give her *one*; I am engaged to you for them all,' he went on.

"Dear, I might give one up to her, poor thing! I feel so selfish. Yes, I will. Now don't tease, Frank. Let me be unselfish for once.'

"Very well, dear. What one shall it be?"

"Say the first extra. (It *was* a waltz now. Who's telling this story?) And you better go and ask her now. Do, Frank."

"He went.

"I still stayed there. (No, I did not expect to hear any more,) and presently Dick N— came up.

"Well, you saved that first extra for me, did you?"

"And she smiled at him, (I looked around the corner and saw, that's how I know,) and said:

"Yes, Dick, but it was awfully hard work."—*Madge Robertson, M.A., in Ladies' Pictorial Weekly.*

Football may be said to have originated with the Romans, who had a game not very unlike that played by the American colleges of to-day.

ing Secretary—Misses M. L. Robertson, Weir, Ballard, Watson. Miss Weir was returned. Corresponding Secretary—Misses Northwood, O'Rourke, Hossack. Elected, Miss O'Rourke. Fourth Year Councillor—Misses Garratt, Fleming, Young, Lindsay, Balmer and Smith. Elected, Miss Fleming. Third Year Councillor—Misses T. C. M. Robertson, M. L. Robertson, Cook, Hamilton, Ballard, and Lawson. Elected, Miss M. L. Robertson. Second Year Councillor—Misses Northwood, Hossack, Hillock, Taylor, and Scratch. Elected, Miss Hillock.

Moved by Miss Rogers, seconded by Miss Hamilton, and carried unanimously, "That a very hearty vote of thanks be tendered to the retiring officers who have with such efficiency served the Society, and who were unremitting in their endeavors to establish it upon a solid basis, in which attempt they were so eminently successful as this evening's meeting is an abundant proof." After which the audience heartily sang "O, She's a Jolly Good Fellow."

A. H. BURNS, '93.

TORONTO UNIVERSITY AND PRACTICAL ENGLISH.

To the Editor of THE VARSITY:

DEAR SIR,—It is surely a lamentable fact that such an important subject as English Composition and Rhetoric should be so sadly neglected at this, our leading Canadian University, as it is under the present curriculum. It is true that in the first year the students are supposed to write essays on certain works prescribed, but it is left to their own sweet wills whether they do so or not, and it is well known that the majority prefer to leave them undone. But while our habits of speaking and writing modern literary English are thus allowed to take care of themselves, we are most assiduously taught in every year of the course how to write and speak correct Anglo-Saxon and even Gothic.

Now, compare this state of affairs with that in vogue at the leading American colleges, *e.g.*, Harvard. At Harvard there are twenty courses of lectures delivered in English; of these eight are devoted to English Composition, Rhetoric and Elocution, two to Anglo-Saxon and Early English, and the remainder to general literature. Now, I do not think that anyone would complain that Harvard has been deficient in graduating thorough English scholars; on the contrary it has sent forth from its halls men whose names now shine as bright lights in the field of literature, and to whom America points with pride, such men as Emerson, Holmes, Parkman and Prescott. It may be urged in answer to this, that what we lack in class instruction in this particular is compensated for by the practice we get in the Literary Society; but then attendance at the Literary Society is entirely optional; it is altogether a student's institution; it has no connection with the faculty; it lacks the guidance of an accomplished literary scholar, and, worst of all, its spirit is antagonistic to oratory and high-class declamation. Let no student, without a firm sense of self-assurance, attempt to indulge his oratorical proclivities at the Literary Society or the chances are that he will experience a complete collapse.

The instructors in the departments of Latin, Greek, French, German, etc., lay special stress upon the composition work done in their respective departments. Why do not the English instructors do the same? Is it because the student is expected to be able to express himself clearly and logically and in good literary style before he comes to the University? Let any one who expects this take a look at our High School system and the way English is taught there.

But, after all, to revert to a very hackneyed subject, the true use of education is not to load us up with facts, but to teach us to make use of those facts which we possess. Every person, educated or uneducated, has a certain number of facts, a certain amount of knowledge, and

whether it be about Alexander the Great or about Bill Nye, really does not matter very much; without the faculty of discrimination all our boasted knowledge is worth nothing. And how is this faculty, this god-like faculty of perceiving and expressing just what is important and no more, to be acquired? Why, surely, by practice, like everything else that is worth anything has to be acquired; and how could this practice be better fostered than by a continuous and compulsory writing of themes on subjects of common interest. By this, perhaps, something might be done to counteract that tendency of the University to pay more attention to bulk than to quality of intellect, and perhaps some of us might go forth from our Alma Mater with that which we have not much opportunity to acquire under the present curriculum, but which should be the distinguishing mark of every educated gentleman, namely, *he cultured and well-trained intellect.*

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE NOTES.

The Engineering Society met last Tuesday in No. 2, School of Science, the President in the chair. There was a large attendance, it being the meeting for revising the constitution. Mr. W. A. Lea brought in his motion concerning the duties of the Corresponding Secretary and the Second Year representative, and after some discussion the amendment was made, thereby relieving the work of the coming Secretary. Mr. Mitchell withdrew his motion concerning the change in the time of meeting. It was decided to proceed with the programme before making the nominations. Consequently Dr. A. P. Coleman, Professor of Mining Engineering, was called on for his address. He gave a most interesting talk on the engineering and geological principles involved in eruptions and volcanoes, using as an illustration the peculiar points of Mount Vesuvius. Together with the scientific part of the subject the Professor briefly described his visit to this volcano and related some amusing experiences. Some discussion followed the address. The nominations were then proceeded with amid great enthusiasm. There are two candidates for the presidency, and there promises to be an exciting contest.

UNIVERSITY CALENDAR.

NOTE.—Contributions to this column must be received before Saturday night. The secretaries of the different societies are requested to furnish us with definite but very concise information as to the time and place of meeting.

TUESDAY, MARCH 22ND.

Class of '94 Prayer Meeting.—Y.M.C.A. Hall, 4 p.m.
Class of '93 Prayer Meeting.—Y.M.C.A. Hall, 10 a.m.
Natural Science Association.—Annual Meeting. Election of Officers. Biological Department, 4 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23RD.

Y.W.C.A. Meeting.—Y.M.C.A. Hall, 4 p.m.
Y.M.C.A. Bible Class.—Y.M.C.A. Hall, 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24TH.

Mathematical and Physical Society.—"Geometrical Expression of Maxima and Minima," by A. T. DeLury. B.A. Nominations. Room 16, 3.30 p.m.
Class of '95 Prayer Meeting.—Y.M.C.A. Hall, 8.30 a.m.
Y.M.C.A. Meeting.—Y.M.C.A. Hall, 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26TH.

Engineering Society.—Annual Meeting and Elections. No. 2, S.P.S., 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 27TH.

Bible Class.—"Delivered from the Jews," Acts, xxiii. 1-24. Rev. J. P. Sheraton, D.D. Wycliffe College, 3 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 28TH.

Class of '92 Prayer Meeting.—Y.M.C.A. Hall, 9.40 a.m.
S.P.S. Prayer Meeting.—Y.M.C.A. Hall, 5 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29TH.

Class of '94 Prayer Meeting.—Y.M.C.A. Hall, 4 p.m.
Class of '93 Prayer Meeting.—Y.M.C.A. Hall, 10 a.m.

CHANDOS AND CAMILLUS.

[AN ACT IN THREE SCENES.]

"Old Roman! Roman! wherefore art thou, Roman?"

SCENE I.

Roman tomb;
Night hawk's scream;
Old Camillus;
Frightful dream:—

Undergraduates in skirt;
Plato's treatise "How to flirt";
Venus forms; alluring dresses;
Freshmen languid; soft caresses;
Ancient valor in a hearse;
Sophomores and moony verse;
Glances coy; voluptuous eyes;
Ravished juniors; silly sighs;
Siren scheming college misses;
Seniors' lips swelled up with kisses.

SCENE II.

Roman weeps;
Smells their doom;
Takes a chew;
Leaves his tomb.

Dynamite beneath his thumb;
Presses button; cracks a bomb.
Eastern corridor ablaze;
Amazons all shrieking "Haze";
Hairpins whetted keen for blood;
Editorial staff in mud;
Nature, startled, blows her nose;
Mutters something; Chandos rose!
Enid's phalanx; hoplite men
In their life blood dip their pen.

SCENE III.

Attic room;
Inky night;
Chan. and Cam.;
Click! they fight.

Cankered age just fights for spite;
Flesh and blood for love and right.
Cam. has vantage everywhere;
Stabbing ghosts is stabbing air.
Curtains dropped; the fight is o'er;
Chandos' face is seen no more.
Who is victor no one knows;
Both, 'tis said, have turned their toes.
"Varsity" now breathes again;
Jay Kobb has resigned his pen.

Night hawk's scream;
Roman tomb;
Wailing winds;
Attic room.

JAY KOB. B.

GYMNASIUM REPORT.

PRESENTED TO THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

Your Committee appointed to enquire what sums were raised upon subscriptions for the former Club Scheme and what means can now be taken by the undergraduates to facilitate the early erection of a Gymnasium and Assembly Rooms upon the College grounds, beg leave to report as follows:—

Your Committee have made repeated efforts to obtain a definite statement of the amount raised for the purpose of erecting a University Club and Gymnasium.

The first act of your Committee was to have a letter written to Mr. W. F. W. Creelman, the chairman of the former Committee, asking from him such information as

he could furnish upon the subject. Not receiving any answer to this letter, your Committee on the 24th February interviewed Mr. Creelman, and were promised a letter for the next day stating the present relation of the former Committee to the scheme now in hand and the amount now standing to its credit. This letter was not received, but a day or two later Mr. Creelman made a suggestion that he be asked to call a meeting of the former Committee and that time be given him to report their decision to us. On the 27th the Society having instructed this Committee to make further investigations into this matter, a letter was written to Mr. Creelman asking that he consult the former Committee and report to this Committee by Wednesday of this week. No further word has been received from Mr. Creelman or his Committee. It is understood, however, that at the time of the University fire about \$2,000 had been actually paid in by subscribers; that after the destruction of the College the scheme was dropped; that the moneys actually received were paid over to the Bursar of the University, and that they have remained with him at interest and are now available for equipping the contemplated Gymnasium and Assembly Rooms.

Your Committee also find that that portion of the college fees which was formerly appropriated for the maintenance of a Gymnasium has been allowed to accumulate in the Bursar's hands and remains unappropriated.

Your Committee have taken steps to obtain from the Bursar a definite and detailed statement in regard to both these funds, and have received from him a promise to lay the matter before the Board of Trustees.

A deputation of your Committee waited on the Chancellor and were informed that the sum of \$20,000 has been appropriated for the purpose of erecting a Gymnasium and Assembly Rooms, and that it is intended to proceed this year with the work. Your Committee have urged the completion of the plans and succeeded in having them placed before the undergraduates to-day.

The Chancellor gave your Committee to understand that the sum voted was the utmost that could be obtained for the purpose at present, and as it was essential to have a building in keeping with the University, the whole amount would be required for the building alone. The University authorities have therefore decided to rely upon private enterprise, and chiefly upon that of the undergraduates, to equip the Gymnasium and Assembly Rooms when built.

Your Committee recommend that estimates be obtained at once for the equipment of the building and an active canvas begun for subscriptions to a fund for that purpose, and that a committee be appointed forthwith to carry on this work, with authority to look after the interests of the undergraduates generally in this connection, and for that purpose to confer from time to time with the University authorities. Such committee to report to the Society at the second ordinary meeting of the next term.

BASEBALL.

A meeting of the Executive of the Varsity Club was held last week to consider the games for the coming season. The first game will be on the lawn, against the graduates; next Trinity will be tackled. Home and home games will be played with Cornell on dates yet to be fixed; and perhaps Ann Arbor may give us a game here, although it was impossible to accept their invitation to meet them on May 7th.

The Manager will invite here Ottawa College, Niagara University, Galt, Syracuse, and other clubs of the Eastern League.

To arrange for the Intercollegiate League for next year, Manager Garrett was appointed to represent Varsity at a meeting of delegates from Cornell and Ann Arbor at Detroit in May next.

Manager Garrett is making things hustle this spring. Games are being arranged with the "Grads," Trinity, and the Syracuse Eastern League team for the end of April. Home and home games will be played with Cornell, and Varsity will likely have a crack at Ann Arbor also. Ottawa College and University of Niagara are also on the list.

The team will likely be better this year than ever. Jack McIntosh, Captain, will likely cover his favorite ground, left field. Of last year's team, Harry Wardell, '92, Knox, '94, Sampson, '93, Parker, '93, Fitzgerald, '93, Driscoll, '93, and Moore, '93, are all on hand. Manager Garrett will likely hold down second base. Côté, who was St. Michael's pet pitcher last year, will be seen in the blue-and-white uniform this spring. Brennan, '94, promises to turn out a twirler of the first order, and much is expected of him. Among the new likely men are Tier, '95, and Dunning, '95.

The men will start to work on the lawn as soon as the weather permits, and in the meantime are getting in shape in the gymnasium, and expect to take the field towards the end of April in first class condition.

We would ask the strongest support from the students for our baseball club, as we have always turned out a first class team, and have hopes that only a succession of victories will mark their career this spring.

HARRY MOORE, *Secretary.*

A THOUGHT.

Years roll their never ceasing course,
Time wings on his eternal flight;
The sweet, cool morn gives place to burning noon,
And busy day sinks into restful night.

So is man's life—in youth fresh as the morn,
Then comes the age of struggle and of strife;
The battle fought, the longed-for prize is won,
And man enjoys the even of his life.

Toronto, Feb. 29, 1892.

NOD ROG.

A CYCLE.

An emerald Spring had launched its bursting life
That into golden Summer sail'd full rife;
To only meet the winds of arid lands
And to be shattered on an Autumn's sands.
Whate'er escaped the sands or withering gale
Lies close entombed 'neath Nature's gorgeous shroud,
Where sweet the little snowbirds chirp aloud
The grave responses to the requiems
Of sighing winds and mournful treetop hymns. Y.

HORACE III. 21.

"O NATA MECUM."

(With apologies to all former translators.)

My good contemporary keg
From thee I have had many a "jag,"
From thee I've drunk that drink divine
Which Romans called Falernian wine.
But now the times have truly changed,
No more we cask with cask do range,
But in our poverty, alas,
We change thee for a pocket-flask.

SEMPER-JAGATUS.

University Extension appears to be prospering in nearly every direction. New centres are being rapidly formed, and there is a growing tendency among colleges and universities to further the scheme.

AMONG THE COLLEGES.

Lehigh University has abolished free tuition.

The Freshman class at Wellesley numbers 198.

There are over 300 men in the School of Mines, Columbia College.

At Illinois Wesleyan, the faculty have abolished all final examinations.

Oxford University and the University of Michigan have 2,420 students each.

The University of Pennsylvania offers 387 different courses of instruction.

Memorial Hall at Harvard, by a new system of service, caters to 800 students.

Leland Stanford is the only American college in which tuition is free in all its branches.

It is rumored that Senator Stanford will erect chapter houses for the fraternities now at Leland Stanford.

Franklin and Marshall is happy in the possession of a new gymnasium, fitted up with all the latest conveniences.

By recent agreement the annual Harvard-Yale football contest will be played at Springfield, Mass., for four years.

The University of Pennsylvania's law-school library is one of the best of its kind in the country, and is valued at \$250,000.

A running track, tennis court, etc., are being laid out at the Stanford University. The funds for athletic purposes are unlimited.

There are over 300 students at the New York City Law School, established this year. Twenty-five come from Princeton.

Stagg, Yale's famous baseball pitcher, and end rush of a few years ago, will probably be appointed Instructor in Athletics at Yale.

The faculty of the University of Wisconsin have abolished examinations, except where the class standing is below 85 per cent.

Harold G. Ernst, Harvard's famous baseball pitcher of a decade ago, has been appointed assistant professor of bacteriology, at Harvard.

The fund to endow a Cornell Pew in the American Church, at Berlin, is being slowly raised. But there is no doubt that the necessary \$1,000 will be secured.

Oxford University will probably send a crew to the World's Fair, if she can be assured that there will be an American college crew there to compete with her.

Nearly all the large colleges report a considerable increase in attendance. Harvard leads the list, with a total enrolment of 2,610, a gain of 358 over last year.

Dartmouth makes the fifth American college having a Christian Association building. The others are Yale, Johns Hopkins, Cornell and the University of Michigan.—*Ex.*

German and French students are as a rule from two to three years younger when they reach a given college class than the American students. This fact is explained by the peculiarity of the school systems of the above-named countries.—*Ex.*

The new library which Henry W. Sage gave to Cornell University is practically finished, and the removal of books thereto from the old library was begun a short time ago. This edifice has a capacity for the accommodation of 470,000 volumes. The building is so constructed that addition can be made to the west and the south wing of the building. The Andrew D. White library of 30,000 volumes will occupy a separate room. The building will cost when completed \$300,000, and the University will have besides the interest of \$300,000 to invest in more books.

MIDST THE MORTAR BOARDS.

Last issue of VARSITY this year.

Lectures were resumed on Monday, the 21st.

Mr. F. B. R. Hellems, '93, will be editor-in-chief of VARSITY next year.

Mr. S. J. McLean acted as Mr. Hellems' Chaperone last Saturday night. He performed his duties admirably.

Bert Pruyn, of Residence, who was so unfortunate as to have his collarbone broken on Friday night, is progressing nicely. Our friend McKechnie is also improving.

We must thank our advertisers for their patronage throughout the year. Our business dealings have been most happy, and we wish them the greatest success for the future.

The article on "Ampere: His Life and Work," which appeared in our last, was a summary of a most interesting lecture delivered by Prof. Loudon, M.A., in University Hall, March 5th.

We are sorry to learn Mr. A. H. Jones, of the second year medicals, has been compelled to go home on account of illness, which, however, we hope will not shut him out of the approaching examinations.

That excellent article on "The Ancient and Modern Stage," which appeared in our last issue, was the synopsis of a lecture delivered in the University Hall, by H. Rushton Fairclough, M.A., on Feb. 27th.

The new Directorate of VARSITY is made up as follows: Neil McDougall, Chairman; W. E. Lingelbach, Secretary; R. S. Strath, J. McArthur, N. M. Duncan, S. Silcox, W. J. Knox, V. G. F. Marani, G. M. Ferris, B.A.

The following men will constitute the Arts Department of the editorial staff of VARSITY for next year, on approval of the directorate: '93, R. S. Strath, S. J. Robertson; '94, S. J. McLean, D. M. Duncan, J. H. Brown; '95, J. Lovell Murray, N. M. Duncan.

We are pleased to learn that the services of Prof. F. H. Wallace (a distinguished graduate of Toronto University, now of Victoria University) have been secured, and that he will preach a sermon, especially appropriate to students, in Trinity Methodist Church, some Sabbath during the latter part of April.

The Medical students have chosen Mr. S. S. Young, B.A., graduate of '91, to represent the Primary years on THE VARSITY editorial staff. We understand he was on the reportorial staff of the *World* for some time, and, on this account, should fill the position creditably. He, together with our old friend, T. H. Whitelaw, B.A., will represent the Medicals next year.

In the list of names of the students who will be recommended to the Direc-

torate for membership on the staff will be found that of Miss Evelyn Durand. Miss Durand will represent the Women's Literary Society, or, in other words, the interests of the lady undergraduates. It is a simple matter of justice that so large a body of students should have a voice in the management of a paper which is published for all our undergraduates, and we are sure the interests of the ladies have been entrusted to worthy and competent hands.

The meeting of the Mathematical and Physical Society, advertised for Thursday, March 17th, had to be postponed on account of the pressure of other business. The meeting will be held in room 16, on Thursday, 24th, when Mr. A. T. De Lury, B.A., will read a paper on "Geometrical Expression of Maxima and Minima." As this is the penultimate meeting nominations for officers will be in order—a full attendance is particularly requested. The final meeting will be held on Thursday, March 30th, for election of officers and presentation of the secretary's report. At this meeting Mr. T. R. Rosebrugh, B.A., is expected to read a paper.

DI-VARSITIES.

He is no vegetarian, I say,
Who drinks the water from Toronto Bay.

Jack: When did Clericus decide to become a preacher? Jill: When he decided that he'd like to marry an heiress.

A member of '95, in construing Latin the other day, transposed *finimus* into *fini mus*, and translated it—"I have been a mouse."

A freshman once to Hades went,
Some things he wished to learn,
But they sent him back to earth again,
He was too green to burn.—*Ex.*

Schoolmaster: Do you wish your son to study the dead languages, sir? Mr. Mod Lang: Oh yes, I suppose so, the foolish fellow is bound to be an undertaker.

Mike to Pat who is ill a-bed: Well, Pat, fwahs the matter wid yiz? Pat: Comsumpshun. Oi lost my roight lung blowin' out my electric loight last noight. J. W. O.

With fingers weary and worn,
With brain tied up in a knot,
A freshman sat in a dry old hall,
Writing out pages of rot.
Scrawl! scrawl! scrawl!
Gall bitterness filled his cup,
And while McKim was sizing him up
He sang the "song of the sup."

Magistrate: You are charged with fraud. What have you been trying to palm yourself off as? Prisoner: Nothing, your honor. Magistrate: No wonder you were so successful then; six months.

Student: What's the matter with that horse? Can't it trot at all? Parson: No, but it's a very good walking horse. It belonged to the Street Railway Co. once and they had to sell her because she walked too fast. She's a dandy for a funeral though.

It was a slippery morning, and '94 came dropping in late to the Psychology lecture. "And so," said the Professor, "material keeps coming in" (door opens, enter three more belated travellers; Professor glances toward them; loud applause), "keeps coming into consciousness by the usual channels."

A DRAMA IN ONE ACT.

Scene: Corner Huron and College Streets. Time, Monday.

Episode: A School of Science man after making frantic attempts to maintain his balance subsides in the mud.

Comments—Junior primus: Why does he resemble a Governor-General of Canada? Junior secundus: Because he's a *Lansdowne*? Sophikus: Because he's a *Stan-lay*? Junior primus: No! because he's a *Duffer-in* the soup.

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