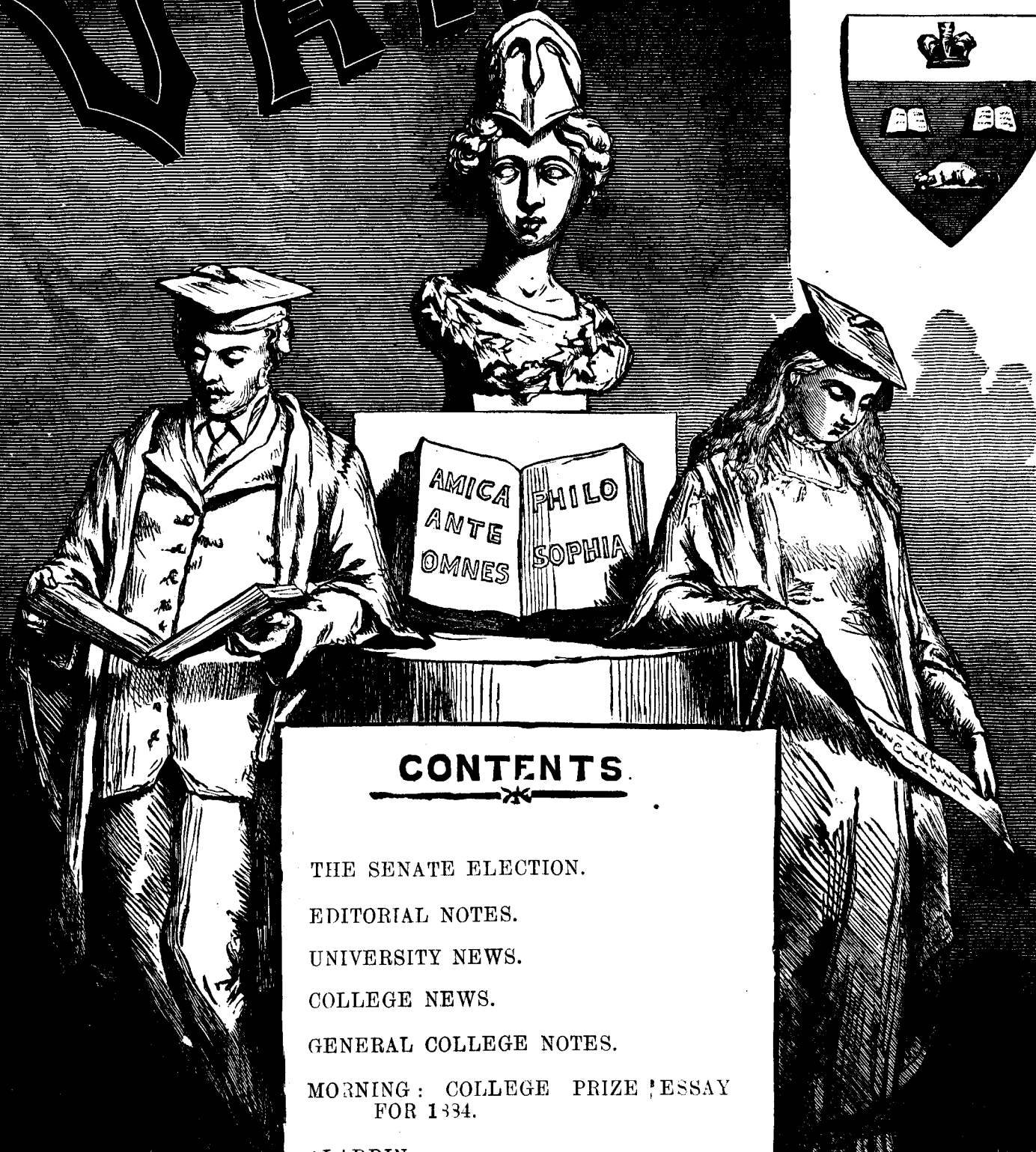


THE UNIVERSITY



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THE 'VARSITY:

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF

EDUCATION UNIVERSITY POLITICS AND EVENTS.

Vol. IV. No. 23.

Apr. 19, 1884.

Price 10 cents.

THE SENATE ELECTION.

It has only been of late years that the election of the representatives of Convocation to the Senate of the University has aroused any interest among the graduates at large. The fact that such interest does now exist to no slight extent, is indicative of good, in several directions. It shows a marked spread throughout the country, of acquaintance and sympathy with University matters, among a class hitherto characterized by an almost hopeless indifference. It shows that the efforts towards awakening an enthusiasm among our graduates, at first the work of a few, but now of many, have been by no means in vain; and that Convocation is beginning to realize the importance it may attain to, and the influence it may acquire, in University government. Graduates seem only now to be arriving at a clear realization of the fact, that if their opinions and deliberations are to have any weight, it must be by their expression in the Senate by the delegates sent there for that purpose; and to this it is owing that men better known and better recommended are being nominated, and that the number of votes polled is largely increasing from year to year. We venture to say, that this year, more ballot-papers by far will be sent to the Registrar than ever before.

There are at present before the graduates the names of six gentlemen seeking election, from whom it cannot be difficult to make a good choice. We will shortly state, so far as we know, the claims several of these have to the support of their candidature.

PROFESSOR LOUDON'S election is looked upon as a foregone conclusion, and so we hope it will prove to be. The Senate has, during the past few years, had much important business under its attention, and many questions of an original nature demanding discussion; and during these years no member of that body has shown more interest in all matters dealt with, more persevering and conscientious devotion to his duty, and more liberality in the mitigation or abolition of abuses, and the proposal or introduction of improvements, than Mr. LOUDON. The quiet, unassuming manner in which all his work is performed, may probably have prevented his name being as continually before the public as the names of others whose actions have been by no means in proportion to the publication of them abroad; but all who know anything of the Senate and Council, bear testimony to his indispensable usefulness, particularly in the exercise of a faculty too rare among our authorities, a genuine business ability and carefulness; and we are glad to think that there is little doubt of his re-election.

MR. KINGSFORD deserves a most liberal support. For many years he has devoted himself unsparingly to the promotion of University interests; and he has done more than any other towards arousing a due enthusiasm among his fellow-graduates, and in bringing about the present thorough organization of Convocation. If elected, as we hope he will be, his attention to his duties as a senator will, we are assured, show care and ability.

DR. THORBURN has been a long time on the Senate, and in him the medical graduates consider themselves (as Mr. OLDWRIGHT'S letter shows) well represented. Among the graduates, in both Medicine and Arts, he will no doubt receive a large vote.

MR. McMURRICH is well known to University men, particularly to those of the Natural Science Department, as the donor

of the McMurrich medal, and as a former president of the Natural Science Society.

MR. COYNE has the advantage of being the only nominee from outside this city; and a country representation is certainly desirable. MR. COYNE has of late shown himself an able and useful member of the Executive Committee of Convocation, always ready to do his duty; and his chances of election are certainly good.

OF MR. CROMBIE, little has been heard of late in University matters. In former days, we are told, his interest in such matters was deep and active; and his seeking election, after so long a lapse of time since graduation, shows a readiness to work conscientiously if elected a member of the Senate.

When so many good men are brought forward, let not our graduates be in a position, after the results of the election are announced, to exclaim, 'To have so many to choose, and to choose so badly!' It is most important, particularly at the present juncture, that the representatives of the graduates should be men who can be depended on to work with ability and conscientiousness. We have said that we believe the vote this year will be the largest yet known. We believe, also, that this vote will be widely representative, and carefully given.

Editorial Notes.

The prospects of Tennis are good for the year. Two clubs have already been formed, a graduate and an undergraduate one, and the ground is being got into condition for play. When latent possibilities become developed, we may be in a position to consider the proposition of the *McGill College Gazette* for an Inter-University Tennis Match.

An endeavour is being made by the Mathematical and Physical Society to found a scholarship in their department in the Third Year. With a view to raising the necessary funds, the society is circulating a letter among graduates stating the case and asking for subscriptions. What success has been met with hitherto we are unable to state, but there is little doubt that the amount can readily be obtained from Mathematical graduates alone. A copy of the letter will be found in another column.

The results of the recent competition for essayists for the Society's prizes, won by Messrs. D. J. McMurchy and Fred. H. Sykes, clearly demonstrates an age-worn yet true maxim, viz: 'Practice makes perfect.' The successful competitors, as indeed all the other candidates, have been most diligent and acceptable contributors in the 'VARSITY'S' columns, so that the competition has not been between the members of the Literary Society as a whole, but between the 'VARSITY' contributors. This being the case, it is patent to all that those who wish to cultivate and mature their styles of composition should take advantage of the columns of our College journal as affording at least one means for acquiring excellence in this particular

line of literary activity. Be it understood that we do not here advocate the neglect of essay-writing in connection with the Literary Society, but urge the claims of our paper as affording the best stimulus for making a writer not only produce his best thoughts, but also clothe them in the best language.

The poet-laureate has sung, 'In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love,' but the fancy of the ordinary undergrad., alas! can only turn to Democritic atoms and to sweet dalliance with Mæso-Gothic declensions. We used to rejoice in younger days 'to see the fresshe flowres howe they springe,' but now buds and blossoms have an inseparable association with cram and exam., and the beauty of the world is extinguished—not for ever, in the words of Mr. Burke, but for the few coming weeks. We are glad to see that sensible students are beginning to be conscious of the farce of College examinations. When the leading men of the year wish to obtain exemption, it is evident that the examinations have survived a great deal of their usefulness. The only argument that keeps them in existence is that the tag-rag and bob-tail of the classes needs something to make it put in motion what in courtesy may be called brains, and examinations are a pretty respectable whip for anything of that kind. We hope none of the professors will force students of recognized standing in their year to take their examinations.

This issue contains a letter signed 'Galt,' which sets forth carefully and at length the writer's views on the question of certain agitated changes in the Modern Language Department. 'Galt' takes exception to a letter published some time ago on this subject, and also claims to criticize our editorial of March 8th. On revising the latter he will find that the opinions therein expressed differ materially from those of our former correspondent. A few sentences quoted from the article will make this clear. 'The study of languages should have a two-fold object: *First*, the acquirement of the faculty of scientific procedure, and *second*, the assimilation of the finest thoughts of different nations. Philology affords opportunity for the one, and literature for the other.' 'For the final year in English and French, it would not be too much to abolish specified literary works and demand a literary knowledge of the chief productions of the two nations.' 'Galt' hints at changes which he thinks would be advisable in the Department, but makes no effort to indicate what these should be. It is our opinion that the alterations are radical and ought to take to a great degree the shape we have suggested.

"Senex" proposes the establishment of a Political Economy Society in University College. We believe such a society would justify its existence by marked popularity and usefulness. The introduction here of clubs in connection with various courses of study has hitherto been successful. The Natural Science Association, Mathematical and Physical Society, and the Modern Language Club are now looked upon as permanent institutions, and have a direct influence for good; and smaller clubs have proved at once enjoyable and beneficial. In no line of study does there seem to us to be so great reason for the existence of a club, as in that of Political Economy, with its allied subjects. In these we have examinations, without lectures. Each man's opinions must be based solely on his own reading and his own thought. Under such circumstances, the opportunities for exchange of opinion and freedom of discussion afforded by a club, would be productive of the best results in increased liberality of view and more practical knowledge in a most important branch of enquiry. With regard to the objection urged against special societies and clubs, on behalf of the Literary Society, we have said before, that if that society ever shows signs of decay it will be from inherent weakness, not from external opposition. Clubs in connection with special courses

will not be hurtful till they become unduly multiplied, which is not likely soon to be the case here.

Mr. Houston cannot see wherein the position assumed in his last letter on co-education rests on a 'quibble' to which we have before referred. That quibble lies, we believe, at the basis of any argument in favor of co-education founded on the statement so often heard of late, that University College was meant for, and is the property of, all 'classes' of the community. This was the position taken by a correspondent 'Omphale' in our issue of the 15th of December last. If Mr. Houston infers that the intention of the Legislature, that women should be admitted of right to University College, is embodied in their enactment in favor of the broad basis of our College system, we must disagree with him, and think his inference can be borne out by no rule of legal interpretation. We cannot think that those who formed the statutes by which our University affairs are regulated, ever contemplated the admission of women to University College as recognized or favored by their enactments. And, if this be so, it is incorrect to say, that 'the disability imposed on women is the act of the College Council.' The Council is now doubtless bound to co-education. But the recent 'clear and emphatic expression of opinion by the Legislative Assembly,' though final in itself, has not been declared to be a retrospective recognition, as many seem to consider it, of a right, already provided for but hitherto misunderstood, or never granted solely because it has never been claimed.

University News.

CRICKET.

The University Cricket Club has every prospect of a good season this year. In the past the team has generally been made up of the graduates and undergraduates who stay in the city during the summer; very often the team was got together at the last moment without having proper practice together. This has made those who lived at a distance feel that they were left out in the cold, and that the team playing matches did not represent the real strength of the University. This year the best players intend to stay over till Convocation, and the Committee have arranged all their matches to be played before that date. The first match is for the 31st of May; this will give the Club a full week's practice together, besides the odd times they will be able to put in before. The match with Trinity is to be a two days' one, and it is proposed to make it a strictly undergraduate affair, on the same principle as the Football matches with McGill, which were found to be such a complete success, and stirred up the greatest possible interest in the game among the undergraduates of both Universities. It is hoped that the same will be the effect in Cricket. The Committee have made out a lively programme, including a short tour, and all the matches are to be against strong Clubs, four of the Clubs being among the best in Canada. The season will be short, interesting, and, let us hope, successful. The following is the programme:—

- May 31st, with East Torontos, on the University lawn.
- June 2nd and 3rd, with Trinity University, on Trinity grounds.
- " 4th, with Galt C. C., on the Galt grounds.
- " 5th, with Guelph, on the Guelph grounds.
- " 7th, with Torontos, on the Toronto grounds.
- " 9th, with Upper Canada College, on the University grounds.

SENATE ELECTIONS.

The names attached to the nomination papers of Messrs. Crombie and McMurrich are as follows:—

MR. CROMBIE,—The Hon. J. D. Armour, B.A., George Acheson, M.A., T. McKenzie, B.A., W. C. Widdifield, B.A., Edmund Bristol, B.A., Douglas Armour, B.A., Wm. Theophilus Stuart, B.A., M.B., John E. Kennedy, M.A., M.B., A. B. Aylesworth, M.A., J. F. Smith, LL.B.

MR. McMURRICH,—J. P. Hall, B.A., T. McKenzie, B.A.,

M. Crombie, M.A., LL.B., H. T. Beck, M.A., A. H. Marsh, B.A., LL.B., D. A. O'Sullivan, M.A., George M. Evans, B.A., W. C. Widdifield, B.A., Edward B. Brown, B.A., J. C. Hamilton, LL.B.

PETITION TO GRADUATES.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, Toronto, March, 1884.

DEAR SIR:—Whereas the resolution lately passed by the Senate of Toronto University, with regard to the reduction of the number of examinations, involves the abolition of Scholarships in the Second and Third Years, and whereas it is deemed advantageous to the students to enjoy the benefits of Scholarships in three years, the Mathematical and Physical Society of University College is desirous of founding a Scholarship to be given subject to the following conditions:—

1. The Scholarship be given in the department of Mathematics and Physics.

2. It shall be open only to University students of the Third Year.

3. It shall be decided by the results of the College examinations, and of an examination held on two additional special subjects—one Mathematical and one Physical: the subjects to be named by the Society.

If the above meets with your approbation you are respectfully requested to state the amount you are willing to contribute to the necessary fund.

J. GALBRAITH, *President.*

R. A. THOMPSON, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

QUICQUID AGUNT.

The Company paraded at the drill shed Wednesday evening.

Mr. R. Balmer, B.A., of the Galt Collegiate Institute, was in town this week.

College examinations at the School of Science began on Wednesday, the 9th inst.

Mr. H. R. Fraser, Fourth Year, is teaching in the Woodstock Collegiate Institute.

The medical examinations commenced on last Monday, Mr. W. C. Widdifield, B.A., presiding.

Good Friday being a general holiday there were no lectures, and the College building was closed.

Dr. Tye, one of the examiners of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, paid the College a visit Saturday.

The latest use we have heard of the 'VARSITY' being put to is making French exercises of it in one of the most popular of Collegiate Institutes.

Professor Hutton has posted up on his door the names of the boys of the First and Second Year who are required to take the College examinations.

The annual sale of papers and periodicals took place in the Literary Society Reading Room, on last Saturday, Mr. W. A. Frost acting as auctioneer.

The examinations in Civil Engineering are at present going on at the School of Science. They commenced Thursday the 10th and will terminate on the 23rd.

Messrs. W. A. Shortt, B.A., New York, J. A. Culham, M.A., Hamilton, and W. B. Northrop, B.A., Belleville, were in town this week reviving old Residence associations.

At the request of the Cricket Club the President has had the lawn rolled, and it is to be hoped that every one will in future keep to the sidewalks and not cut up the grass by walking across.

At the close of the last lecture in Metaphysics to the Fourth Year, on last Monday morning, J. McG. Young on behalf of the class and in suitable terms, presented Professor Young with the class picture.

Messrs. D. C. Little, R. E. Brown and J. N. McKendrick were chosen by the Sports Committee to represent the University at the meeting of delegates to form a Dominion Amateur Athletic Association.

Verily this is an age of pictures. The following have had their photos taken within the last month:—The Fourth Year Metaphysical Class, last year's General Committee of the Literary Society, the Association Football team, the Rugby Football team, the Residence Fourth Year, etc., etc.

The latest event in sporting circles was the race across the

lawn on Monday afternoon between a couple of urchins and a peeler, the boys being well in advance but the peeler gradually gaining. The College building, however, offered an asylum for the candidates for honors in crime, and the policeman went back empty-handed.

The annual election of officers of the Gymnasium for the coming year was held in Moss Hall, on Thursday, the 10th inst., with the following results:—President, G. W. Mickle; Vice-President, J. Shortt; Secretary, E. C. Milburn; Treasurer, J. P. Hatton. Committee,—4th Year, Messrs. Logan and Evans, 3rd Year, Messrs. Jamieson and Elliott; 2nd Year, Messrs. McLaren and J. S. McLean.

A general meeting of the Glee Club for the election of officers for next year was held on Thursday afternoon in the practice room. Professor Pike was unanimously chosen as Honorary-President. The other officers were as follows:—President, M. S. Mercer; Secretary, R. E. Brown; Treasurer, J. White; Leader, A. G. Morphy. Committee, 4th Year, Messrs. McCulloch and Duff; 3rd Year, Messrs. McKeown and Simpson; 2nd Year, Messrs. Hodgins and Garvin.

The following appears in a recent issue of the *Chatham Banner*.—'The people of Chatham may expect a musical treat in the concert to be given by the Student Quintette of University College, Toronto. For several years this Club has delighted critical audiences by their rendition of high-class vocal music, while one of their number, Mr. R. Haddow, has been pronounced by competent judges to be an amateur impersonator whose efforts will bear comparison with those of trained professionals. The Company also presents in its college choruses one of the phases of college life as college boys alone can do it.'

ROTTEN ROW.

G. F. Cane has left for Newmarket till the examinations. He thinks he can study there better than in the first house. The Residence is expecting a box from North York daily.

All friends visiting Residence now are required to make themselves useful or scarce. Reading translation is one of the tortures.

The steward is in a quandary. The usual charge for breakfast is 25 cents. Eggs are (or at least were, they have gone up since) 18 cents a dozen. Easter Sunday one student eats two dozen and another eighteen. How much did he make?

A. MacLaren, Buckingham, Que., who has just completed his second year in Engineering, has given up his course, and returned home on last Monday by way of New York.

Rev. Dyson Hague, B.A., conducted the last prayer meeting for the year, which was held on Tuesday evening, the 9th inst.

College News.

OSGOODE LITERARY AND LEGAL SOCIETY.

The public meeting of the above society held on Thursday evening last was quite a success. The fair sex turned out in large numbers, who with their gallant escorts fairly filled our new Convocation Hall. Judge McDougall, with his cheerful demeanour, acting as president for the evening, inspired every student at least with a humour fitting for the occasion, and brought up many pleasant reminiscences to the members of the society of the days when he acted as its president. The programme for the evening was as of old, stereotyped in its form, consisting of a reading, an essay and a debate. One thing our society lacks is a Glee Club, which would lend good service on an occasion of this kind. Even one similar to the now famous 'Kettle drum and variety Band of Rotten Row' would be preferable to nothing.

Mr. Raymond was called on for a reading and gave a rendition from Julius Cæsar. Now, while we do not wish to play the part of a critic, we must remark that he appeared to be held in check by an apparent consciousness that he stood before an audience and thus did not throw sufficient vigor and force into his rendition to satisfy the peculiar and excellent qualities of the selection.

Mr. Ross gave an essay on 'Shakespeare's ideal man.' Undoubtedly Mr. Ross knows whether his essay is entitled to merit or not, but we fear the audience were left in ignorance as to what

it contained, simply because the essayist failed to make himself heard beyond a few who occupied the front seats. This is too often the case; an essayist seldom delivers his essay in a style to show up its merits or to do justice to himself. The debate followed on the question. Resolved, 'that the recent lamentable events in the Soudan were owing, in a large measure, to the vacillating and inconsistent policy adopted by Her Majesty's Government.' A weighty question for a presumptive law student to discuss in a fifteen or twenty minutes' speech, we admit, but one which we are pleased to say was discussed in a manner that showed the debaters had at least given the subject careful consideration.

Mr. Wallace gave a concise history of the Egyptian troubles from their origin down to the present time, and endeavoured to show that the Gladstone Ministry had at least been responsible for the prolongation of the war.

Mr. Atkinson playfully and critically handled the wording of the question, and styled it as peculiarly partisan in its formation and phraseology and in the uncertainty of any definite meaning it might convey. He ably combatted the arguments brought forward by Mr. Wallace, and closed his remarks with a fitting and excellent tribute to the honesty, energy and ability of England's greatest statesman, Mr. Gladstone.

Mr. Arnold followed and ably traced the British Government through all its actions in connection with the Soudan troubles, and thought the Government had been sufficiently dilatory in grappling with that question to cause the honest people of England to hurl them from power. After making the ladies the subject of his wit, and after delivering a very effective speech, he resumed his seat.

Mr. Masten then followed, and by clearness of argument and by the production of solid subject matter, fully proved that the Gladstone ministry had done all that could be done under the circumstances, when they had to carry out the undertakings of the former Beaconsfield administration.

The question was left to the audience, who decided in favor of the negative. A vote of thanks was tendered to Judge McDougall in such a manner as to show him that the whole audience appreciated his presence. The meeting then adjourned.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER.

DEAR 'VARSITY,—The funeral of the late Dr. Todhunter took place on Tuesday last, the first part of the service being read in the Chapel of St. John's College, when there was a large attendance of members of the University who wished to show the last mark of respect to one who had made himself so distinguished. At a quarter to twelve all the members of the University who wished to attend assembled in the Hall of St. John's College, and when the hearse drove up to the gate at twelve o'clock, the procession was formed in the first court of the College in the following order:

The College Porter.
The College Choir.
The Junior Dean, officiating.
Fellows of St. John's College. THE BODY. St. John's College.
The Family and Mourners.
The Vice-Chancellor.
Heads of Colleges.
Professors, Doctors, and University Officers.
St. John's College. } Late Fellows.
 } Lecturers, Officers, etc.
 } Masters of Arts.
Other Masters of Arts.
Bachelors.
Undergraduates.

As the procession marched slowly to the Chapel, the choir sang 'Rock of Ages.' After the service, which was full choral, was over, the anthem, 'I heard a voice from Heaven,' was beautifully rendered. The procession then left the Chapel in the same order, and as they again passed through the first court of the College the choir sang 'Jesus lives! no longer now can thy terrors, Death, appal us.' The service was concluded at the Mill-road cemetery. The coffin, which was of polished oak, was beautifully decorated with calla lilies, white lilac, and camelias.

One sad result of the late Lent boat races has just been made known. The stroke of the Queen's College boat was very

unwell at the time of the races, but he nevertheless persisted in keeping his seat in the boat throughout. He did so, but was directly afterwards laid up with an attack of pleurisy, from which he died a week later.

Mr. Henry George, who has given so much attention to 'Progress and Poverty,' delivered a lecture on land-nationalization at Oxford last Friday, and here at Cambridge on Monday. The meetings at both places were most unruly, and at Oxford Mr. George said the audience was at once the most intellectual and the worst behaved that he had ever addressed. Mr. George showed wonderful quickness in answering all the questions that were put to him, notwithstanding that the object of his interrogators was not so much to gain information as to trip him up.

I fear I have already made my letter too long, so I must say farewell—a longer farewell than usual, as our Easter vacation begins in a few days.

Yours very truly,

T. C. S. M.

Cambridge, March 12th, 1884.

General College Notes.

Dalhousie College is about to organise an Athletic Club.

The *Chronicle*, of Ann Arbor, paid \$185 above expenses in 1882-83.

The Scandinavian kingdom has about five hundred industrial art schools.

Princeton College is to have a building devoted exclusively to art. It will cost \$50,000.

The freshman class at Cornell has representatives from Russia, Spain, Brazil, Central America, Germany, Australia, and Canada.

Foot-ball has been abandoned at Amherst, and all the energy of the college hereafter will be employed in support of the base-ball nine.

The University of Pennsylvania will hereafter hold its annual bowl fight in the Athletic grounds, instead of on the streets as formerly.

The *Dalhousie Gazette* has an excellent article on the need of a college Residence. It also complains of the want of a Science Course at the University.

MORNING—THE COLLEGE PRIZE ESSAY FOR 1884.

By DUGALD J. MACMURCHY.

ὦ δῖος αἰθῆρ καὶ ταχύτεροι πνοαί,
παμμήτορ τε γῆ,
καὶ τὸν πανόπτῃν κύκλον ἡλίου καλῶ. —*Æschylus.*

IN THE CITY.

It is a cheerless morning as we step out upon the damp pavement. The air is sharp and piercing, and the uncertain light that begins to glimmer seems rather to increase the gloom of the scene. The houses are grotesquely large; the sidewalks are bare, and look half expectant of the great human tide that will flow back over them with the return of day. The streets are noiseless and empty. Even the darkness, as if reluctant to leave, lingers yet in shady corners and down dark alleys. Out on the broad street the perspective of the long lines of houses is harder than ever. The street corners never seemed so mathematical, the church spires never so fantastic. As we pass along and look up at the windows, here and there a drawn blind betrays the sleeper within, while down below articles exposed for sale and left over night look odd and out of place. Next we reach a cross street, and expect to see some living being. Not a soul is stirring, and the long street ends only in a dim mist, that suggests miles and miles away in the country—the home of the green fields and the summer clover, where nature rules alone, and all is innocence, and purity and hope. Dreaming, however, of them brings the fields no nearer. As we wander on we see for miles around us acres and acres of the roofs and chimney tops of the great city. You would almost fancy that the whole population had fled during the night, till a stray beam of light falling upon the pavement attracts our attention, and, looking up, we see that the dim ray of a lamp has struggled out through a closed shutter, only to die in the first light of day. Perhaps, too, with that same dim ray struggles out the muttered, long-forgotten prayer of a dying man. For within the other rays of the low-burning lamp fall across the feverish face of the sufferer, who welcomes the morning but to wish it gone, and only sees the day decline to long for it back again. As the first light steals in on him, his thoughts wander away back to the old home

and the little room where long ago he used to lie and watch the same bright sunbeams glisten and glance on the little square window panes, while outside, far overhead, the birds were praising Him who sends the sunlight. Life was very fair then, but now repentance seems a mockery, and hope comes too late. Leaving the light and the reflections it awakens we pass on. A stealthy breeze comes up the street behind us, making the shop signs swing and creak till they look ashamed of their own faces, and sending a rabble of last year's leaves with their bad city acquaintances—scraps of dirty paper—scampering across the roadway. A little farther on, down at the end of a lane, shines a gas lamp, looking dismal in the increasing light. Led by curiosity we pass in and disturb what seems a bundle of rags, but what is in reality a human being that want has forced into the streets, and charity and the police have left there. As your eyes become more used to the light, or rather the darkness of the place, you see that the poor wretch you have disturbed is not alone, for he also has companions, to whom some quiet corner affords scanty shelter, Alas, that brick and stone should be less hard-hearted than flesh and blood! Some are asleep—never to wake again. Others are asleep, but they will wake again, perhaps on many another morning of misery like this. But they are far away now from their troubles, far away in the fields, in the woods where they once used to stroll. Some are in gorgeous palaces attended by smiling courtiers. Some in golden climes raising the precious sand in their hands. All are forgetful of what is passing round them. Thank God! the poor are as happy in their dreams as the rich, and often more so! Retracing our steps we pass out under the archway, on up the street. There is more light and things look more natural. Round the corner in front of us comes the first cart with a sharp turn, and goes rattling away up the street. The sun is coming up fast now; it tips the cathedral's spire and pinnacles with a dazzling edge; a minute more it peeps over the gables and looks you full in the face. The broad day has come at last, and down through palace dome and rotten roof, through costly-coloured glass and shattered window, it sheds its equal ray.

IN THE COUNTRY.

There is no wind. Even nature itself is in suspense as we pass out though the little wicket gate and go on over the pathway up the hill. The air is fresh, and with the first sign of the coming day, grows colder. The few remaining stars never looked so far away. Far in front the first dull hue—the death of night rather than the birth of day—glimmers faintly in the sky. Soon this indistinct light gives way to brighter colors that foretell the advent of day. Higher and higher it shoots into the pale vault, till the sun—the bright sun that brings not light alone, but new life and hope and gladness to man—bursts forth over the expectant earth in clear and radiant glory. God made the country. No one could doubt it as in the green grass on every hand sparkle thousands of gems. The daisies turn their lovely dew-dipped faces to greet the light. Objects which looked grim and terrible in the darkness grow more and more defined, and gradually resolve themselves into familiar shapes. The haystacks, even the barns look picturesque as the first sunbeams, leaping from one tree-top to another, fall aslant their moss-grown gables, and down their weather-beaten sides. Over on the hill yonder the little country church that nestles among the trees has not been forgotten, for these first beams look in at the odd, old-fashioned windows, and throw great golden bars of light into the pews below. Still, though these sunbeams love the little old steady-going church, with its ivy-covered walls and simple worshippers, they love far better to peep in through the churchyard gate, with its unsteady hinges, and look at the graves which lie thick in the shadow of its walls. These early beams never trouble the old hinges, for they come in right over the top of the gate, and stoop ever so gently to kiss the grass that is green on every mossy grave. They remember the one that has lain there forgotten for a century, and they have done so every morning during all these long years. They stoop in pity over the mound that was not there yesterday, and lift the drooping flowers that have been placed there last night. Soon, however, the new grave will be as green as the rest; soon it will miss the gathered flowers and the daily visit, but the gentle sunlight will come back again every morning just the same. Through the weather-beaten palings of the old fence the great heads of clover look in awe at their more patrician neighbors the roses. But the roses too must die with the clover. On down the road we pass, till in the meadow we cross the bridge with its noisy stream. The well-worn planks show that many have passed before us, on up perhaps to the churchyard on the hill, or to the wicked city many a long mile past it. As we stand gazing into the stream the maples glance over our shoulders at the images reflected in the water, and their leaves tremble as they fancy that perhaps some day they may stoop too far and fall headlong into the water. Out on the meadow the sheep are grazing as if the sun had been up for hours

Right down in front, a lark rising from his nest in the long grass, flies straight up-up, as if he would reach the very sky. His song is so glad, so pure, so joyous, that you cannot help envying him the voice that sends forth such a hymn of praise. Farther on from the top of the hill we see fields on fields of waving grain, backed in the distance by the green woods, that look so mysterious with their cold blue mist. Here and there a pine outstripping his fellows, tosses up in the air his sturdy arms. The sky is now full of the morning's glory. We can hardly fancy as we look round on the smiling earth, that lust, and vice and wickedness could ever come to mar such loveliness as this.

ALADDIN.

Thou standest reflectively upon thy one long leg and round, flat foot, like a meditative crane, my Lamp.

On my study table, in the midst of scattered and heaped sheets of M.S., open books and their quarled dark thoughts, thou standest and sheddest thy benignant light, illuming what is dark.

Thy luminous head lightest my page. Thy soft steady rays make thee a grateful and refreshing Presence.

Indeed a Friend.

I raise my eyes from these dreary books and contemplate thy shining familiar face. Companion! Friend!

Let others praise Nature, her delights and the wonders of her design. *Thou* art both Poetry and Nature and Science to me. I look into the manifest relationship and the subtle harmony of thy parts, and praise the cunning hands that made thee.

Thou art a Teacher as well—of Systematic Theology. I see design in the wise little receptacle for the absorption of superfluous oil, and the quaint device by which thy columnar wick is fed.

Midway thy shade of Porcelain and the parallel brightness of thy cylindrical reservoir, midway also between thy Top and thy Bottom, is a globe of metal.

There my eyes rest.

It glistens blackly like the drop of ink in the palm of an Egyptian diviner.

It becomes clearer! It is opaque no longer; it is growing luminous, expanding more and more—it is the mystical crystal of the astrologer whereby the Dark Future is foretold.

And I see—

A little dreary Studiostube walled ceiling high with brown dusty books, an arm chair by a table, littered with papers and books, upon which *Thou*, the kindly genius of Bachelor's Hall, radiates light, the one bright spot in all the Desolation.

There is a figure in the chair; those old features certainly resemble mine—

It is—myself.

But stop—

Did I say books in a narrow study?

I was mistaken—

It is a wide cheerful room, bright colored paper on the walls, pictures,—*thou* art still the centre, casting thy light on all—

Was I *alone* there? Why, there are children, cherub-cheeked and joyous—revolving satellites of a little round matronly figure ever busied in matronly ways, their sun. Thy light falls upon the happy group—she turns her face and I see—

But what nonsense this is! How absurd to talk to a Lamp as if it could understand!

Q. Z.

AMONG THE CANNIBALS.

A FRAGMENT.

We had left Callao for an eighteen months' cruise among the islands of the South Pacific, intending to stop at any of them as occasion required to procure water. In those days the modern invention of evaporating machines was not generally used, and many of Her Majesty's Ships were obliged to trust that an opportunity would be offered to land for water as they needed it. During the cruise we encountered light and contrary winds. The use of steam was strictly prohibited, except in cases of great emergency, and so our progress was necessarily slow. When still five hundred miles from the nearest land—the islands of the Marquesas group—our fresh water ran out, and our captain was under the painful necessity of reducing our allowance to one quart a day per head. He then decided to steer straight for the nearest point of land, and a few days after, a favorable breeze having sprung up, every man on board was rejoiced to hear from the mast-head lookout man the well-known cry of 'Land right

ahead!' Only those who have experienced the agonizing pangs of thirst when at sea, especially in tropical latitudes, can realize the intense joy of coming within reach of a renewed supply of fresh water. On nearing the land, which happened to be an island not marked on the Admiralty charts, we required to be specially careful in picking our way by using the sounding lead, so as to avoid the numerous coral reefs by which most of the Pacific Islands are surrounded. The magnificence of the tropical verdure, combined with the delicious fragrance of the fruits and flowers, which on these islands grow almost to the water's edge, was most refreshing after the weary monotony of so many weeks on the broad expanse of ocean with nothing but blue water on all sides.

We had soon picked out a beautiful anchorage, about one mile from the shore, in a splendid bay, quite protected from the broad reach of ocean, on which at times, during tempestuous weather, the huge waves, rising to a greater height than on any other ocean in the world, roll in toward the land with irresistible force, bringing destruction to all objects in their course. Boats were gotten out and preparations immediately made for landing in search of water. Before, however, these were completed, we observed a small fleet of canoes coming off to us from the shore. The largest of them, on nearing the ship, appeared to contain a personage of importance, who, though naked and in all the majesty of war-paint, tattoo, and feathers, seemed by his gestures of command to those who were propelling him, to be the one in authority. At first they seemed fearful of approaching us, evidently not being certain of our intentions, but we endeavoured to reassure them by friendly demonstrations. The flag of our nation, commonly known as the 'Friend of the Slave and the Savage,' was hoisted to the head, and as our Captain pointed to it, we observed that all fear seemed to be dispelled in the leader's mind and his canoe quickly came alongside. He was beckoned on board, this permission, however, being denied for the moment to his companions. As he came over the side the captain and officers being ranged around the gangway ready to receive him, he certainly presented a very remarkable appearance. He was of large stature and handsome features, and we readily observed that, though his complexion was copper-colored like the rest, and profusely tattooed as they all were, he could not belong to the same race. Though we had thought them all entirely naked, we must give this mighty warrior credit for at least an *attempt* to adorn the simplicity of Nature's garb. His loins were girded with a cloth of tappa, his wrists and ankles garnished with what we afterwards discovered to be human teeth surrounded by roughly plaited bands of human hair, and the only evidence of any remote connection with civilization was, on his head, a very old, battered and crownless beaver hat, with half the brim absent, the remaining half shading his eyes. A more unique figure never paced the quarter-deck of one of Her Majesty's ships of war.

Though greatly amused at his appearance, we were somewhat prepared, when, while making the conventional salute of lifting his hat to the captain and officers, he said in an unmistakable brogue, 'The top of the mornin' to you, sir.' This remarkable salute, under such unusual circumstances, seemed so ludicrous that, in spite of his assumed dignity, it was impossible for us, from the captain down, to refrain from laughter. Of course we were eager now to learn the man's history, finding that he really was a native of the Emerald Isle, but we cannot attempt to give it as he described it. Briefly his story was this: Three years before, while serving as a seaman in a whaler, he was very sick. His captain, fearing he would die, and that his death would be hastened by the necessary privations of a long voyage, gave him the option of being landed at the first opportunity. He preferred this alternative, and his captain made for this island, the nearest land to them at the time. He was put on shore with his hammock and some provisions, and left to his fate. The ship proceeded on her voyage at once, no human being having been encountered during the landing.

He was discovered two days afterwards by a large tribe of the savages, and, unable to account for his appearance, they concluded he was dropped from the heavens, and therefore appropriated him as a god. He was taken charge of by the medicine men, and in due time recovered. Wives were given to him, huts built for him, and he in fact became the recognized head of the tribes.

* * * * *

He invited a party of us to land with him, stipulating that we should be armed, and we did so. He showed us first the tattooing huts, places to us of extreme horror. Here we saw

dozens of women undergoing the awful tortures of having their bodies covered with the savage devices of the tattoo, and he told us that many poor creatures succumbed to the severity of the treatment. Their painful moanings left an impression on our minds never to be erased. He next took us through their camps, where we saw what I trust cannot any longer be seen in any part of the globe, thanks to the civilizing influence of Christian missions—human flesh, in all its hideous reality, hanging outside their huts, ready for use as food. We could easily recognize the small proportions of infant limbs. The women among these savages are as handsome as any women I have ever seen, even in civilized countries; even their delicate forms could be recognized amongst the supplies of food. We turned from this horrible sight, sick and disgusted.

He then took us to his own huts, at the top of a low hill, overlooking a wide plain at its base. He introduced us to upwards of a dozen of his beautiful wives, who could hardly be induced to show themselves, the women here being especially shy and retiring.

He told us that the tribes on the island had regular days for fighting their battles, which days were arranged by the condition of the sun or pronounced by the medicine men, and that a battle would take place that afternoon. We had before become aware of the warlike character of the savages, for hostile demonstrations were made as we landed, which were only quelled by our guide's explanation to them in their own language, which he now spoke fluently, that we were too powerful to be molested successfully.

We remained with our guide during the afternoon, and witnessed a sanguinary battle on the plain between two powerful tribes. They fought with bows and arrows, spears with bone heads, and huge clubs, and many were killed. Some were only wounded, but these, our guide told us, would surely be put to death if taken as prisoners. Our guide informed us further that he himself took no active part in this savage warfare, as in his capacity of deity both sides revered him and trusted to his decision as arbiter.

The next day, having taken off an abundant supply of fresh water, we left the island. We gave the Irishman the opportunity to accompany us, but he preferred to be a god-king among savages, rather than a laborer among his own countrymen. Two years later we learned at Valparaiso that he had become weary of his solitary and savage grandeur, and had accepted a passage offered him by a vessel also calling in for water. The new condition of life on board ship, after his wild and unfettered sojourn with the savages, was more than his constitution, already undermined by many privations of past years, could bear. He died on the passage home, and his body was after all committed to the mighty deep. Thus the elements from which he had escaped in such a remarkable manner some years before at last secured him as their lawful prey.

F. W. B.—I.

Communications.

CO-EDUCATION.

To the Editor of the 'Varsity.

DEAR SIR,—How easy it would be for me to say (for 'mere talk is cheap') that history only repeats herself when a rabid social revolutionary characterizes the opinions of his opponents as 'unjust and unreasonable,' and when some of these individuals, glorying in their self-confident words, and wielding the huge sword of personalities and ridicule, strut up Goliath-like to their antagonists and say, 'Am I a dog that thou cometh to me with staves?' Let me ask the sunlight of the reader's mind to dissipate the fumes that float around the letter of Mr. Stevenson, in order to get at the cause of all this smoke and fire.

First of all, what is the cause? Clearly, my exposure of the main part of the evidence in favor of his pet scheme that he has been boldly flaunting in our faces for the past few months. Now, how does he meet my attack upon his evidence? In the first place, Dr. Fairchild's. And here note well, Mr. Editor, that even Mr. Stevenson forbears saying a word for this evidence, that on Oct. 27th, '83, he characterized in your paper as 'unimpeachable testimony,' and made the basis of a long letter in your issue of Oct. 20th, '83. I must confess that this evidence, then, seemed very convincing to my own mind, but what is it when examined? Eliminate from it the factors, that Oberlin possesses *peculiar* and *special* advantages for the fostering of co-education, that the College sprung out of the High School, that from its inception an equal or al-

most equal number of both sexes attended there, that it was and is strictly under religious and denominational control, and, with all this, the candid assertions of Dr. Fairchild himself, that marriages, being most *natural* things, occurred even before the college course was ended. I say, eliminate these factors from this so-called 'unimpeachable testimony,' and then apply it in favor of co-education in University College, and what a paltry evidence it becomes!

Again, how does he meet the charge made upon the evidence of Dr. White, of Cornell University? He begins by saying that 'Mr. McG. tells us that Dr. Wilson says that President White has been absent for long periods from his college,' and then asks 'What of that?' Yes, we repeat, what of that? for, mark, his answer is an evasive one, viz., 'that one would think that Dr. White would still know more of what was going on at Cornell University than Drs. Wilson or Eliot.' No one denies this. The point at issue is whether the long absence of a President from his college does or does not very materially lessen the weight of his evidence in reference to a matter that was going on while he was away. Would it not be the most natural thing in the world for the President *pro tem.* and the faculty to give a favorable report of the management of the college to the Dr. on his return?

Now, as to my second point in reference to this evidence—that the Sage Endowment necessitated co-education—mark Mr. Stevenson's verbal quibbling. With a repugnance worthy of J. S. Mill he disowns the word *necessity*. He tells us that the endowment did not necessitate anything; it was *conditional* on something; a different matter entirely. Very good, we will not quarrel over mere words. What was the *something* on which the endowment was conditional? 'That instruction shall be afforded to young women in Cornell University as broad and as thorough as that afforded to young men.' This condition might be carried out in two ways: (1) By a separate college; (2) By co-education. Now, I ask my friend if 'the exhaustive enquiries' and hesitancy of the committee were not occasioned by the fact that they felt that the acceptance of the endowment meant co-education? I have before me a 'Report to the Trustees of Cornell University in behalf of a *majority* of the Committee on Mr. Sage's Proposal, by Dr. White.' The bulky evidence in it for co-education, the one-sidedness in which it is written, and its closing appeal, doubtless to the dissenting members of the committee, 'not to reject' the opportunity of trying co-education, stamp with the seal of truth my statement of the case. Besides, not knowing but that the information I had formerly received was incorrect, I wrote to the Registrar of Cornell, and received a letter from him in which the following unmistakable words appear: 'There was, however, *in fact*, some delay and hesitation about accepting the endowment committing the University to co-education.' Now, Mr. Editor, where is what Mr. Stevenson has gentlemanly (?) called my 'distortion of the facts.' Let him rise and explain.

To my question why he did not give equal weight to the opinions of Drs. Eliot and Wilson as opposed to the opinions of Drs. Fairchild and White, he answers, 'I was not comparing the two systems.' Now, it is too well known that Mr. Stevenson has not refrained from making contemptuous references to Dr. Wilson, even when not comparing the two systems. See 'VARSITY, Oct. 27th, 1883, where he begins a letter couched as follows: 'Dr. Wilson has an idea. That idea is an annex, etc.' However, my question was a mere decoy, and how helplessly Mr. Stevenson fell into the snare. As testimony on the point that due order and discipline would not be endangered by the introduction of women to University College, he says, 'the *experience* of Drs. White and Fairchild are worth everything; the *opinions* of Drs. Wilson and Eliot are worth nothing.' Let us compare Drs. White and Eliot. First, notice that what Mr. Stevenson is pleased to call Dr. White's *experience* is, in a large measure, an *opinion* based upon the experiences of the other members of the faculty. So this so-called *experience* of Dr. White, who has been absent from his College for long periods, and who was not free to adopt either system of education, and who is clearly now bound to say nothing prejudicial against his College, is *worth everything* to the mind of Mr. Stevenson, while, on the other hand, the *opinion* of Dr. Eliot, who set out with an unbiased mind (because free to adopt either system) to make thorough examination of the colleges where co-education was tried, he regards as *worth nothing*. I am perfectly willing to be charged with innocency and submissiveness in accepting as *preferable* (not 'without questioning' as Mr. Stevenson has wrongly stated) the *opinion*, under these circumstances, of such a clear thinker as Dr. Eliot, to the so-called *experience* of Dr. White. Yes, the *opinion* of Dr. Noah Porter, of Yale, Dr. Greenwood, of Manchester, and Dr. Dawson, of Montreal, and scores of such eminent men of clear judgments who calmly and unbiassedly study and weigh this question of co-education, than the so-called *experience* of College Presidents who virtually dare not, for the *good name* of their College, express adverse opinions regarding the system, especially when they are financially excluded from adopting a different one. I ask, how many of the colleges from which my friend drew his 'overwhelming array of evidence' were free to adopt

either system? Let him produce extracts from official documents about the matter. Mark, I do not hold that this makes their evidence worthless. All I contend for is that it makes it fall *far short* of being 'unimpeachable.'

If, in the heat of debate, I compared *all* the Western Universities to 'our second-rate High Schools,' I was wrong, but that I had some ground for speaking this way let my readers judge. I have before me the Annual Catalogue of Butler University for '82-'83, and on the first page, under Requisites for Admission, No. 6, this *telling* requisite appears: 'For admission to the First Preparatory class (and this I find to be the largest class in the University) students must give satisfactory evidence of a *respectable* knowledge of Arithmetic, English Grammar, Modern Geography, and the History of the United States.' Yet, this University (see 'VARSITY, Oct. 27th, '83) went to make up part of my friend's 'overwhelming array of evidence' and 'unimpeachable testimony.' I thank Mr. Stevenson for commending to me that German proverb, for, verily, I have visited a colony of 'the people on the other side of the mountain, and, lo! they are pigmies.' After examinations are over, I hope to visit a few more of these colonies, if needful, and give my friend my impressions. But enough on the evidence question, for, now, it must be clear even to Mr. Stevenson himself that a second edition, and that carefully revised, of his Book of Evidence must soon be forthcoming if he expects to convince us that it contains 'unimpeachable testimony.'

Again, Mr. Stevenson says, 'It is in vain for Mr. McG. to attempt to make out that injustice has been done by this step to young women who do not wish to attend University College,' and Mr. Houston, whose calm and convincing style of letter I commend to Mr. Stevenson, uses words of a like import. The injustice done to these ladies I purpose briefly to show.

Co-education, if introduced into University College, will be successful or unsuccessful. (1) Let it be unsuccessful. Now, how many years will be required to test its working? We will say only five. If discovered then, can we suppose the practical men who, we are told, compose our Legislature to immediately change the system, whose establishment will have cost them some thousands, and spend some thousands more in building a separate College. We think not. Therefore we conclude, making even these low estimates, that ten years would elapse before the system should be changed. Now, observe, Mr. Editor, the position of the two classes of ladies who desire higher education in this period. Those who are satisfied with co-education would attend and receive a University training, but those who, honestly and thoughtfully, object to this system, and who are anxious to secure a University education, must needs either do without it or go to the United States for it (and here is where the 'compulsion' comes in, let me remind Mr. Stevenson), while the other class, even if the Government see it wise to delay in reference to the Higher Education of women until they feel able to build and maintain a separate College, would not need to go out of their own Province.

Now, take the second case, viz.: that co-education will be successful, and it is with this aspect of the case that co-educationists must deal as their expectations of its success are sanguine. If I have dealt fairly with the first case, it will be plainly manifest to all that the same arguments hold here, only with redoubled force, as a separate college would be *indefinitely* postponed, and hence a more manifest injustice would be done to those ladies who, to secure a University education, would be *compelled* to do what they otherwise would not do, or *compelled* to leave their own Province and go to the States, or *compelled* to do without it. Moreover, it is not a mere fancy I have that the *majority* of the ladies of our Province who shall matriculate will prefer separate education. I can point to the opinion of even Dr. Angell, of Michigan University, where co-education is carried on, that 'the majority of young women seeking higher education will do so at colleges specially designed for women,' and more significant still is the fact that 314 ladies attended Vassar, a college of high academic standing, during the eighteenth year of its establishment, while *in the same state*, at Cornell, where co-education reigns, only 50 ladies are found after a trial of twelve years. Surely, we cannot assume that the *majority* of the ladies of our own Province have less delicacy of feeling in reference to mingling and comingling with male students in college halls and class rooms than American ladies. And here let me add that if Mr. Stevenson means, by saying that those ladies to whom I referred may be like the gentleman who would be a soldier 'were it not for the vile guns,' if he means by this that those ladies are afraid of the hard work involved in securing a University training, he has used his figure for nought, for these ladies have shewn by their high standing on the class lists that they are not afraid of the 'vile guns.'

I am sorry that I will be unable to attend, just now, owing to the approaching examinations, to any further observations on this important question.

Yours very truly,

JNO. MCGILLIVRAY.

HIGHER EDUCATION OF WOMEN.

To the Editor of the 'Varsity.

In my last letter on this subject occurs the following sentence :

It must be borne in mind that University College is the property of the State, and that if a parent wishes his daughter to enjoy in it educational opportunities which are open to his neighbor's son, his request cannot be long gainsaid.

You say that this position rests upon a 'quibble,' the 'fallacy' of which you have already attempted to expose. After considering the sentence over and over again I confess my utter inability to detect either 'quibble' or 'fallacy' in it, and as I have no recollection of the attempted exposure of which you speak I would like to have it repeated.

You will not deny to the Ontario Legislature the right to say how an institution subsisting under a public Act of Parliament and on a Provincial Endowment shall be conducted. The University College Act imposes no disability on either sex. The disability imposed on women by their exclusion is the act of the College Council, and whatever warrant there may have been for that course heretofore, there can be none hereafter, in view of the recent clear and emphatic expression of opinion by the Legislative Assembly.

It is quite evident, therefore, that if I am standing on a 'quibble,' I am occupying that position in good company, since the great majority of the members of the Assembly hold the same view. Until it is made clear to me that one half of the people have no educational rights which the other half are bound to respect, I must be allowed to take my stand on the ground of simple justice, which in this case, I am glad to believe, is also the ground of highest expediency.

WILLIAM HOUSTON.

Toronto, April 9th.

THE MODERN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT.

To the Editor of the 'Varsity.

DEAR SIR,—Allow me to say a few words on certain changes in the Modern Language Department, advocated by yourself and stated at length by a correspondent in your issue of March 19. The changes have indeed every appearance of tending to confer a more liberal education; but I hope to show briefly that quite the contrary would be the effect, that they would have the tendency rather to crampen and narrow.

"In the upper years all texts might be taken off, so that the student may be untrammelled in his course of reading." "Let more emphasis be laid on practical knowledge. The honors might be given exclusively on prose." The above two quotations represent fairly, I believe, the two radical alterations proposed in our course, and I wish now to show that their adoption would defeat the very object for which they are designed, namely, education.

I would first, however, just point out where I think the scheme is not quite consistent. If prose be such a desideratum, why trammel the men of the earlier years with texts? Would not they, more than those of the higher years, need time for practice in prose? This scheme I believe to be totally wrong in principle; but it has this additional fault, that while effectually subverting our present system of University training, it goes about its own work in the clumsiest manner.

A few words now on the results that would follow even a consistent scheme on these so-called more liberal principles. When prose is made to form the body and main end of an examination, the inevitable consequence is a bending of every energy for proficiency in that subject. And how is this proficiency best obtained? Is it not by securing in the first place some favored boarding house where the required languages are spoken, and devoting oneself withal eagerly to prose books? It would not pay to read extensively. The best policy would be to confine oneself to the magazine articles and lighter literature of our 19th century. The grand works in other centuries, when the language had an unfamiliar, uncouth appearance, it would be the height of impolicy to read. True, there are always 'queer geniuses' who in defiance of all curriculums and examinations would range at their own sweet will into unknown, out-of-the-way nooks and corners. It is not, however, for these that curriculums and examinations are made. Their education lies in great part beyond these limits and receives no recognition. No arrangement of the curriculum would greatly affect them. But it is for those who will guide themselves by it that the curriculum is made. And I maintain that the curriculum, as under the proposed amendments, would inevitably condemn the majority of students to gross ignorance in the whole range of foreign literature. I think I have shown that above. But let me repeat with an illustration: In French prose, for example,

how much would the aspirant be benefited for examinations by the study of works so late even as Molière, not to speak of the earlier Rabelais and the curious fragments from the Middle Ages? And yet we know what an education of subtle, incalculable power is to be obtained from knowledge such as this. It is a widening of the mental horizon which would never be obtained by this amended curriculum. How infinitely better is our present scheme of study. A wise selection of master-works from the various literatures and a thorough study of those insisted upon, saves the 'queer geniuses' in part from the superficiality which attends their own unregulated reading and would force on the others a knowledge which is unwelcome at first, it is true, but is afterwards recognized gratefully at its own high worth, as better than anything of their own devising; and moreover, our University would then be assured (as she has a right to be) that those who go forth with her stamp upon them would really have fair scholarly acquirements.

A word as to Philology: 'A practical knowledge of French and German can be had without knowing a word of Philology.' I think that statement will be safe from contradiction. But does your correspondent imagine that Philology was ever intended to assist in the practical knowledge of any language? And is he not under some mistake as to the distinguishing feature of a University course? In condemning the science of Philology, because practical knowledge of the language can be had without it, is not your correspondent taking a position like that of the man who would condemn the study of botany until by practical gardening in all quarters of the globe, the botanist had learned the domestic habits of plants? Your correspondent knows that for the study of Philology, and of the wider science, the science of language, a parrot-like glibness, or indeed a very extensive vocabulary is by no means necessary. In these studies we have a valuable scientific exercise of the mind, and some insight is given us into the workings of mysterious laws wide as human kind, the very existence of which the vulgar mind never imagines. And yet we are asked to cut away this large section of scholarly education!

I have shown what a sham the study of foreign literature would be under the proposed alterations. We would, therefore, have the modern course reduced to the mere accumulation of words, and the mental acrobacy of prose—neither of them demanding intellectual power of a very high order, and both, with the disadvantages which we necessarily labour under here, cumbrously and slowly acquired, with immense waste of brain-labour, and in the end decidedly inferior to that acquired in shorter time by residence abroad.

Your correspondent seems to forget that it is just this scientific study of language and languages and the critical study of their literatures that is the distinguishing feature of a University course in Moderns. The changes he suggests would degrade our present scholarly Modern course till it meet the requirements of the shopman or the corresponding clerk. In the improbable event of these changes being made I would recommend those who would secure a good University Education to take any other course in the meantime than that of Modern Languages, and postpone the unintellectual acquisition of agility in prose until, by a brief residence amongst natives, they can make the acquisition with as little possible expenditure of time and labor.

That some alterations, and some important ones, need to be made in our Modern Language course is undoubted. These, however, are not radical changes, but only improvements. While recognizing these, and trusting that they will soon receive intelligent consideration, I must protest against this degradation to which some would submit our Modern Language department.

Yours, &c.

GALT.

POLITICAL ECONOMY SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the 'Varsity.

DEAR SIR,—I take the liberty of suggesting the propriety of establishing a society for the study of political economy. There are already sundry societies for the purpose of investigating certain subjects; but I do not know any subject that offers as many advantages for discussion and investigation as political economy. Many of the principles enumerated by Mill and Fawcett are by no means settled and have been disputed by subsequent writers. The investigation needs no special apparatus. New questions are repeatedly occurring for solution. The reviews, magazines and newspapers are continually treating of this subject in such a way that a society of this kind need never be wanting for matter of investigation.

I call attention to this subject with the hope that some student will at once commence the organization of such a society as I propose.

SENEX.

SENATE ELECTIONS.

To the Editor of the 'Varsity.

SIR,—Having read your article on the elections to the Senate I would ask you to allow me point out that there has always been a general understanding, since the first election in 1873, that one in three of the elected members should be a medical graduate. This is the proportion which obtains at present; but this year two medical graduates retire. I observe by the list of nominations that only one seeks re-election. I have not heard from Dr. Graham why he has not allowed himself to be nominated, but presume that he has generously sought to avoid even the appearance or possibility of any clashing with a due representation of the faculties. I hope then that every graduate in arts will also respect the established understanding and include in his list of candidates the one medical nominee.

I trust that the fact of my being a graduate in arts, and being equally interested in the affairs of both faculties, will secure me from the imputation of special pleading in behalf of the faculty in medicine.

I am yours sincerely,

WM. OLDRIGHT.

50 Duke St., Toronto, 10th April, 1884.

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