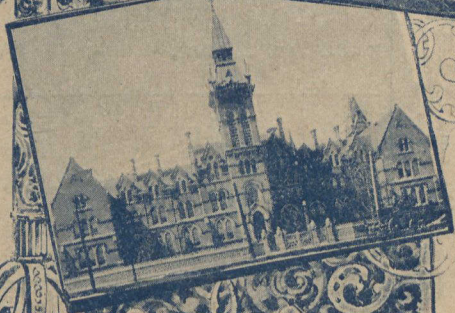
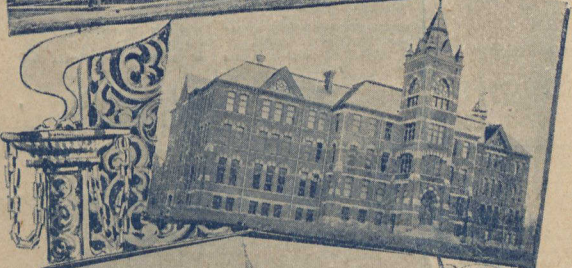
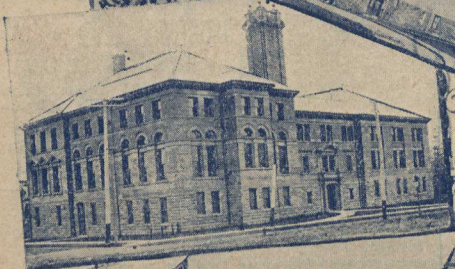
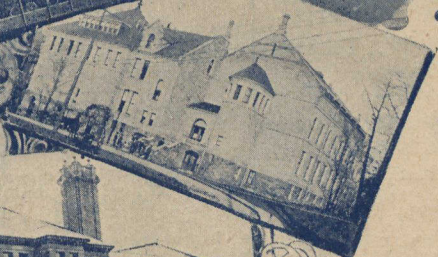
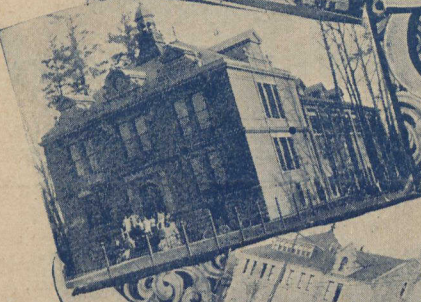
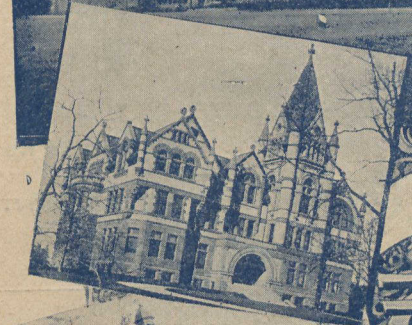


# THE VARSITY



VOL XVI. No. 17.

University of Toronto.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY 24TH, 1897.

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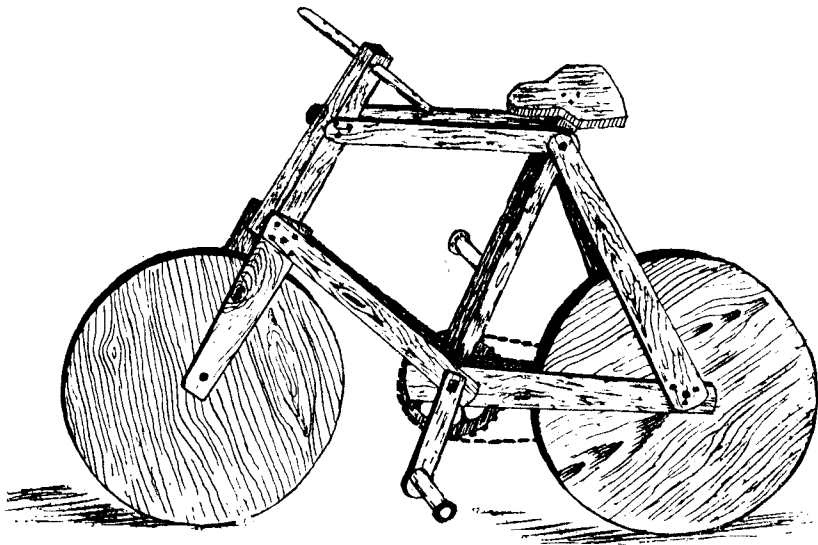
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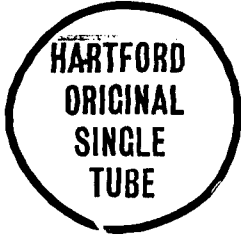
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# THE VARSITY.

*A Weekly Journal of Literature, University Thought and Events.*

VOL. XVI.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, FEBRUARY 24, 1897.

No. 17.

## SHADOWS.

O life, so young, so wild, so sweet,  
Thou dost not deem forlorn  
Those wearied souls where grief has beat,  
And joy'st while others mourn.

But ah! within the future years,  
When those by Sorrow's throne  
Have gained a respite from their tears,  
Thy heart may mourn alone!

J. T. SHOTWELL.

## BOOKS AND OTHER MATTERS.

In making a beginning at this column I fear I shall be thought to have "opened up in opposition" to my friend, "Brian Boru." Far from that, this is the long-delayed fulfilment of a promise to attempt to supplement the delightful *Meanderings* on occasions when his classic stream proves altogether too sluggish to move his barge. But I fear I have undertaken a rash task. Shall the most pensively frivolous of Shakespeare's fools take the place of that fierce whiskered sovereign of Old Ireland? Perish the thought!

Talking of the Irish, there seems to be a genius for narration running through the whole nation. I believe there are a score—nay, a hundred—Mulvaney's in the world, and their offspring rival them. There is a small, ubiquitous Mick living next door to me, whose thrilling exploits make my youthful brother's eyes almost pop out of his head for wonder and horror. Here is a very ordinary example of his prowess. He told it himself, and he ought to know the facts of the matter. "I got a pistol at Christmas. They didn't know it would shoot bullets, but it would. I used to go out and shoot dogs with it." (He is ten years old.) "I got found out, an' they were going to hang me. I dug a hole in the yard an' got into the back end of it. Radcliffe, the hangman, came up to get me, an' I shot him an' dragged him into the hole an' buried him. Then another policeman came up, an' I shot him too, an' two more too. But I buried them all, an' when they didn't go back to the gaol, they thought I'd moved away, an' give up trying to find me. You can believe me or not, but I wish I may die if it ain't all true. I'd show you the pistol, but I threw it away so as not to get caught." The police may have the street and number by applying through VARSITY.

After all, good stories—new ones—are what we of this fag end of the century are craving for. We are, for the most part, sick of hearing of drawing-room insipidities. We are waking up to the fact of the world's being a big place. A man like Kipling makes us feel what a tremendous engine it is. And we want to see the wheels go round. We feel that we've been kept on the passenger's platform long enough. We want to go down below and stand in the glare of the furnace and inhale the salty sweat of the stokers, and let our linen get coal-dusty if it will. And we

want to see the *big* wheels go round, and see the pistons slip like living things bound in an eternal groove. Anyone who has read Kipling's "Seven Seas" has had his or her blood stirred to be up and out among the people who do things and do not only talk

Books of the other class—I mean even the great novels by Thackeray and George Eliot—are more apt to catch our attention from their subjectivity relative to ourselves. They make us see, and at last look for ourselves in the characters; and this is pernicious in the end. We are less held by the plot than we, perhaps, suppose. A man like Arthur Pendennis will attract a great following of readers from the ranks of young men, for they all feel that he is, for his time—and it is continuing still—the most natural of young men in fiction. And they are attracted to him by their own mirrored virtues and follies and vices. With his training and education his story is like the reader's own diary. I think few women find Pendennis strikingly natural. He is not the man of their theory. Hence, too, George Eliot's women are not always very real to us. We can refer their experiences and emotions to no passages in our own private history. Herein is one of the hidden criteria by which we judge an author's ability to paint true men and women.

Dr. Parkin's prominence in a recent Varsity article reminds me of a little incident which befell a friend of mine at a little evening party. They were playing games, and in one of them one of the players was sent from the room, and those remaining having settled upon some man and some article or idea, the other was to return, and by questioning the circle find out what they were. Now, my friend had suggested the name of Dr. Parkin, and Imperial Federation. The others had looked wise, rather too wise it seemed to him, when he had done so, but they accepted the words. When the questioner entered and began to make inquiry regarding the unknown gentleman's qualities and state in life, it became evident that the questioned knew rather less than the questioner. At every query they turned their eyes upon my friend for assistance. But when it came to Imperial Federation, "Is it east of Bathurst Street?" asked the anxious inquirer. With one accord the questioning eyes were fixed upon my friend! O, ye well-groomed, empty-faced youths, and inane pink and white creatures, wherefore do ye exist and afflict the earth?

But idiocy is not quite confined to the darkness beyond the pale of Varsity. Here is a picture, which is only unreal inasmuch as I cannot draw it skilfully enough. Indeed, I greatly fear ruthless Mr. Editor will exercise press censorship upon this as being too personal, so familiar will the incident be. A few mornings ago a hopeful youth drifted into the library and proceeded to seek the furthest bench. On the way thither he managed to put his elbow into the ribs of several disgusted readers, and his wit quite overpowering him, he closed the book of another. Having sprawled himself forth in a chair, he regarded all and sundry with an ample all-embracing grin, and proceeded to talk to the nearest in a manner expressive

of great gaiety of mind. They were unappreciative, but he was a long time becoming discouraged. Finally, having had enough of this exercise of the intellect, and having found in his pocket a bit of rubber, a new programme of amusement opened glitteringly before his vision. He proceeded to cut the rubber up and throw it about, especially among the ladies, accompanying the same with many unspeakable smirks and grimaces, and gleamings of the teeth. For the most part Dr. Nansen himself never encountered a more chilling frost, but one or two susceptible maidens were melted into a subdued but touching giggle. After a time the darlings picked up their books and left the library. This killing charmer followed after, calling down upon himself an avalanche of stamping *O tempora, O mores!* Let us groan together, brothers and sisters who like it not, for these things at last cease to be amusing.

\* \*

As the ladies' college graduate hath it in her pink-ribboned essay, "Whither are we drifting?" Yea, whither? These grievous things have come amongst us in the last year or two. They put us in a state of mind which is neither pleasant nor healthy. I venture to say that most of the men watching such a maudlin exhibition as I have just described, are, in spite of their better selves, thinking nasty things about co-education; and if it is so with the men, what must not be passing in the minds of the women? Has it all come to this? If so, it is a failure, and will be a more exasperating failure every year. These are dreadful reflections, and, indeed, only born of an irritating moment. It is hard for us to be turned aside from hoping all things of a system which gives the same education to men and women, which keeps them complements of one another, as was manifestly the great first purpose; for this is the destruction of the female agitator and the sneering misogynist. The spectacled bearer of the awful green umbrella may rant and rave as she pleases. From the time of Elizabeth to the latter end of this century men have not regarded women as their equals, simply because they were not so. As Goethe tells us, it all comes to feeling in the end; and the fact that men felt the need of other men for their comrades and companions ought to show us that their own wives and sisters could not satisfy the want. Men are eminently natural; the equality of women will not be acknowledged by Act of Parliament until it is felt in the individual mind. And towards that is mightily working our great system of common education. No man can go forth from an institution such as we are now a part of without feeling this much-talked-of equality—possibly deep within himself he owns it a superiority. And he rejoices in this new-found power of companionship, in this appreciation and understanding of so many sides of his being, which he would never have been led to throw open to women whose lives have not been made in great measure common with his own. He finds the spooniness of the quondam *tête-à-tête* turned into the delicious fencing-bout of a conversation where there is opposition, where there is a foeman worthy of his steel. The women who bow their tired heads under the green lamp are fighting the battle for their foolish and indifferent sisters. The time will not be long when the 'gay Lothario' and the 'tabby-cat woman' will find their occupation gone, and vanish like the pterodactyl and the megatherium.

FESTE.

#### PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

The regular meeting held on Friday 19th inst., was one of unusual interest. Mr. M. A. Shaw, B.A., gave an excellent paper dealing with the problem of time from a psychological standpoint. Mr. T. C. Hood, '97, compared the ethical positions of Green and Sedgwick.

The programme for the next meeting, which has been postponed until March 5th, will include a paper by Miss

H. B. Mills, '97, on the relation of Neo-Platonism and Theosophy, and one by W. B. Lane, M.A., on some aspects of Lotze's Theory of Space.

J. W. BAIRD, Sec.

#### FACTS VS. ASSERTIONS.

In an article which appeared in VARSITY two weeks ago some statements were made which, as they reflect anything but credit on the work, the students, and the staff of the University, should not be allowed to pass by unnoticed. It is not to be supposed that the University is perfect, but any criticism offered should be founded on a knowledge of circumstances. Every reasonable undergraduate knows that whatever weaknesses there exist in our system, are not the result of the ignorance or the perverseness of the authorities, but of conditions which they would gladly alter if they could. My purpose, therefore, will be to examine the statements made, to inquire what part of the grievances complained of are real, and to find out how far the remedy of any real grievance lies within the control of the persons criticised.

Many of the weaknesses of which the writer complains are really not weaknesses at all. Before fault is found with any institution, this question must be answered, What is its function? Afterwards it is in order to inquire how far it fulfils that function. What he considers the function of a university, the writer does not tell us plainly. "Culture" seems to be what is aimed at, but we are told on "high authority" Canadians have difficulty in understanding the meaning of this word. What I glean from the whole article is that the purpose of a university course is the development of character. But is that the primary function? Is it not rather to afford facilities for the ardent, independent, disinterested pursuit of truth? Such pursuit of truth certainly results in mental and moral development, but that is incidental. Let me quote from Professor Laurie of Edinburgh: "I do not believe that the university forms character. Character in all its essential features is already formed in the young matriculant. The home and the school have done this." Self-reliance is the feature of university life. While in the kindergarten and public school, the student needs kindly, affectionate sympathy, and constant supervision of his work; but when he enters a university he should no longer crave for the discipline of the nursery, but be a man. No doubt, great men were produced under the English tutorial system, but this system is not followed in the universities of Germany, the greatest university country in Europe. Professor Seeley, in comparing the systems of these two countries, says: "We have isolated celebrities equal to the greatest of Germany, but we have not anything like the number of students engaged, each in his own department, on original and fundamental inquiry." To say, then, that the system followed at Toronto is not like that at Oxford or Cambridge is not by any means to prove it bad. A system which works very well in one country may fail entirely in another.

The function of a university, being to facilitate the earnest search for truth, what is the function of a professor? It is certainly not to play at "guest and host." It is not to sympathise with the "high ideals and high aspirations" of the youth who is "full of his own ideas." It is to inspire the student with something of his own love for his subject; to present truth in its most attractive form, and, most important of all, to be to him a living example of the fact that knowledge is power. How paltry it is, then, to apply this criticism: "No man can be said to be educated or cultured whose 'grammar is deficient,' yet there are university graduates now nearly connected with their Alma Mater who cannot say many words without murdering the Queen's English." I do not say that

the inaccurate use of words is of no account whatever, but I do say that it is too trivial to mark the distinction between cultured and uncultured, gentleman and boor. There may be men on the staff whose "grammar is defective," but what student cares for the husks and shells? If the kernel is sound he is satisfied. A lecturer, especially in Science, Mathematics and Philosophy, may use "shall" and "will" quite contrary to established usage, but may notwithstanding be capable of imparting information and stimulating thought.

That defect in the system which permits the presence at the university of "a large number of students who have, by the accident of sex and through no fault of their own, a bad effect upon the rest," is not dwelt upon. It is left untouched. But such a statement shall not be left untouched, because it is certainly unkind, and surely it is untrue! When we remember that many of the leading universities of the world have opened their halls to women; when we are not able to accuse them of any fault of their own, we might at least refrain from passing judgment on the problem of co-education. But that "large number of students who have a bad effect upon the rest" need no defence of mine. The common sense of the undergraduates is their best defence.

The statement that the professors have no personal interest in the men is a pure assumption. Take these statements: "The professors care little whether the undergraduates attend their lectures or not." "The undergraduates never discuss the professors as men." "When the professors do discuss individual undergraduates, it is as to their capacity for obtaining marks at the May examinations." "The students have no chance of making their acquaintance in any other capacity than that of a section of a peripatetic encyclopedia." I am not in a position to say that some of these statements in a qualified form might not be true of one or more of the professors. There are a great many of them, and I do not know them all. But the statements as they stand are untrue. Such sweeping general statements are their own contradiction. And further, what amount of personal interest and intimate acquaintance is possible? What amount of personal supervision of work can reasonably be expected? By last year's class list there were sixty-three students in Political Science, in Ethics sixty, in Honor English one hundred and sixty-one, while in Modern History in the third and fourth years alone, there were one hundred and four. Consider the lectures to be prepared and delivered, the essays to be critically read and valued, the amount of reading absolutely necessary to keep in touch with current literature, and then consider the statement, "the remedy is wholly under the control of the professors and lecturers." What time has the professor of English to spend with each of his one hundred and sixty students, either by way of taking breakfast with him or discussing those "high ideals and high aspirations with which he may be overflowing"? It is for the lack of these breakfasts and discussions we are told that "Toronto University—perhaps all Canadian and American Universities—are centres of nothing except perhaps foot-ball." If the claim is valid the professors ought to consider it seriously. If a few breakfasts and discussions can change the position of our University from being a "centre of nothing," to a centre of the most advanced thought of the time, by all means let us have them.

Another defect in the system is that it does not provide means by which we may acquire knowledge of men and of the world; yet, having claimed this, the writer goes on to say: "An unavoidable evil, one which must ever impair the usefulness of the University, is its location in Toronto. We shall always be too much dominated by the political and industrial movements of the place." Is it really an unavoidable evil that men who want a knowledge of the world should spend four years of their lives in a

political and industrial centre? The fact that our University is in touch with the world of political and industrial activity is a help not a hindrance. It is from the industrial classes that the University receives its support. Prove to the people of Ontario that Toronto University is not and does not want to be in touch with their political and industrial activity and it will very soon cease to receive government support. Where would the student of Political or Social Science go to verify his hypotheses, or to obtain data for new conclusions if not to a political and social centre? What the undergraduate needs at that age when he is "fullest of his own ideas and readiest to accept those of others," is not the seclusion of an academic village, but at least occasional glimpses of the world in which he must fight the battle of life.

The wearing of the gown is a relic of past days, a superstition from which we are not yet quite free. But we need never hope to enforce a university spirit by demanding a distinctive dress. Spirit is too subtle a thing to be thus created. We do want a university spirit, but its presence should be marked by good-fellowship, honesty, truth and Christian manhood, not by a garb.

That a university life is not all pleasure is evident to every student. The May examinations are a deep and dark valley ahead of us. Our work is not seldom tedious. Lectures are not always interesting. If these things which make life unpleasant are faults which can be corrected, they certainly ought to be discussed openly. But they must be met fairly. The undergraduate who condemns the whole examination system must be prepared to suggest something, which will take its place. The amount of work in each department has been planned by skilled educators, who were once, like ourselves, struggling undergraduates, and who are in a position to know something of the matter. They are not infallible though, and may have done wrong. If so, their attention should be called to it. It is simply absurd, however, to speak of "organized agitation." We have had some experience of this and we want no more. What we do want is a dispassionate, logical statement, based on a full knowledge of the facts. For the demagogue and his harangue we have no place. By making his claims too great he spoils all. As undergraduates who have the welfare of our University at heart, we may often feel justified in criticising; but if we are to accomplish anything we must not exaggerate or agitate, but, with becoming respect towards the Faculty and Senate, state our case with a rigid adherence to fairness and truth.

HUGH MUNROE.

#### S. P. S. NOTES.

The fourth year are the happy possessors of a bicycle, adapted especially for indoor riding. A quarter-mile track has been laid out down stairs and some of the men have gone into actual training. On Friday, however, the bicycle, which is a "Donka" make, had its rear wheel bent into a figure 8, so operations on the track have been indefinitely suspended.

Mr. H. V. Haight has returned to the school after a week's illness.

We were informed by a notice on the bulletin board on Friday last, that the S. P. S. was to take part in the prize fight tournament down in Carson city on March 17. An S. P. S. man was to be at the ring at the finish and challenge the winner. Cheap rate tickets could be procured from Mr. S—y, chairman of the S. P. S. committee appointed for the occasion. The Faculty has consented to close the school for the week of the date in question.

Verily we are an energetic institution. We might safely look forward to the day when the heavy weight championship of the world will be held by John Smith, Grad. S. P. S., or by Tom Jones, B. A. Sc., C. E.

There will be no boy-caught-in (boy-cotting?) third year lectures for a few days.

As a general thing troubles in the School arising from the misconduct of the students can be laid down to two or three who are notoriously bad; but in the present crisis "None but the righteous" was (were) at the bottom of the whole thing.

### THE STREAM.

I love to linger near thy leafy banks,  
To wonder what thou art and whence thy way.  
So human like thou seem'st; for now, sad looks,  
And then, bright smiles across thy mirror play.

A life thou art! with here a merry glide,  
—A shallow calm, scarce wrinkled by the breeze.  
Ah! Thou too soon away from here art led;  
And then thy restless spirit onward flees.

Whither? Thy course, that once so smoothly ran,  
Is now much broken—here, a water-fall,  
And there, a rock,—but last the sea is reached,  
Where meet all streams—the great and small.

Then where? With all earth's other streams, thou art  
Through Time's broad fields swept far from side to side,  
Until the dawn of Judgment day, then all  
In mid-stream meet God's throne, the great divide.

And now, dear stream, thy fate on God depends;  
If mercy fails, thou to the left must go;  
But if it holds, through time's eternal days,  
In sweet Elysian valleys, thou wilt flow.

WILHELM.

### THE LACK OF UNIVERSITY SPIRIT AND A REMEDY.

If you question any undergraduate on the subject of University spirit he will be almost certain to answer, that there exists very little of such a thing around Varsity, that is generally speaking. Of course, there are a goodly number who, in spite of the many adverse conditions and with the greatest lack of encouragement, maintain a most pronounced spirit; and it is upon these comparatively few that the whole burden of upholding the honor of their *Alma Mater* falls, and what is more astonishing is the fact that those very undergraduates, who take but little interest in things Varsity, except it be for their own delectation, enjoy the labors of their fellow-undergraduates without exhibiting the slightest appreciation, and, I believe, in a great many cases, even feeling it.

Now such a state of affairs is deplorable. The undergraduates of this University do not seem to realize that they belong to the greatest University in Canada, and that this University, which I firmly believe every one of us loves from our hearts, has an illustrious past and demands a glorious present, which, in spite of so many adverse circumstances, we are all proud to say, she has.

The University has many obligations to fulfil to its friends, and obligations that can only be fulfilled by the undergraduates, for example, the graduates and the numerous friends of the University expect us—the undergraduates—to entertain them once a year at Varsity. Now some of us do so; but is it not deplorable to think that very few more than twenty-five per cent. of the students patronized the *Conversazione* this year? Every student has friends in the city, and should he not feel it his very duty, if not his pleasure, to bring them here, show them around the building, of

which we are all so proud, see that they enjoy a pleasant evening, and thus add his friends to the many friends of the University?

Now this is just one instance. I could give many more; for example, the way in which the University dinner was patronized, less than thirty per cent of the students attending; and also the Glee Club Concerts. I might also mention the "mass" meetings of the students, called to consider questions of importance in University life, at which sometimes a hundred assemble.

I cite the above to show that there is some evidence, at least, to support the assertion that there is very little existing University spirit. When I say "little existing," I am perhaps wrong, for I believe that deep—very deep with many—in the hearts of the undergraduates, the fire of love for their University lies smouldering and only needs careful fanning to have it burst into flame. And it is this flame of enthusiasm that we would all like to see about Varsity, instead of the prevailing dormant, indifferent spirit. Nothing inspires one more than to hear a person eloquently and enthusiastically declare his love for his native land; and so nothing raises the enthusiasm of the most indifferent of us undergraduates more than to see a fellow-student uphold, with heart and soul, the honor of his and our *Alma Mater*. Indeed, "*this very spirit of affection for your University will inspire you with the very depth of patriotism for your native country.*" These, I believe, are the sentiments of our esteemed friend Dr. Parkin.

I hope I have pointed out conclusively enough that the evil exists, and now for the causes and their remedies.

It is difficult to point to this and that as definite causes of a thing, which is in itself rather subtle; but I hope I may succeed in giving you a few of the chief reasons.

One of the principal causes forces itself upon us, and it is this very indifferent spirit that I referred to above. The remedy, of course, is self-evident, and lies totally in the hands of the undergraduates. No one else can accomplish it, although its early death might be hastened in many ways.

Another and far-reaching cause is that the majority of us have too much work to do well in the time allotted us, and still take an interest in affairs Varsity. It may seem rather extravagant to assert this as a reason; but think for a moment of how a great number of the students at Varsity are placed. Many come here under difficulties, and in fact have to "push" themselves through; and in the face of this they feel, and rightly so, that in order to take a high stand, which seems essential to them for their after-success, they must work night and day, and focus all their energies on the work prescribed. You can see the effect of that. They are forced to exist in their little world of books, without adding to the benefits therein obtained the great advantages of living, to some degree at least, in the world of human nature, which is found in no small measure in the company of their fellow-students. The remedy for this, too, is apparent, and lies to a great extent with the University authorities, although the students might assist greatly by uniting in expressing clearly and distinctly to the "powers that be" their belief that the curriculum should be shortened.

There is still another reason, for which I hope to offer a remedy, and it is this: There prevails at Varsity a class spirit, which is undoubtedly detrimental to a university spirit. The students are divided up into four classes. I admit this is very convenient in some cases, but in many others it is foolishly strained.

You want instances of that? Well, tell me, did you hear that good old Varsity yell at last; Convocation once for every ten times a class yell was given? Did you not hear coming from groups of undergraduates of the *same* university defiant yells for their *class*? Last Hallowe'en,



when we assembled as *Varsity* students, class yells were frequent; and even at the dinner, that most laudable function of *Varsity*, the class spirit asserted itself on one occasion, and it was agreed that that was the only flaw in the whole proceedings, excepting perhaps the non-expression of sufficient enthusiasm.

Now there cannot be the slightest question but that the spirit of class distinction is cramped and narrow-minded compared with a university spirit. But is it not fostered to a great extent here? Every one of us will remember how the class spirit was instilled into us when we were freshmen; a class society and a class yell were expected of us. Again, the Literary Society arranges debates between the representatives of the different years, and these are pitted against one another, and urged to uphold the honor of their year.

I have asked the opinion of quite a number of the students regarding this prevailing class distinction, and especially the class societies, and invariably they deplored this class spirit and expressed their opinion that the class societies, as far as meeting the wants of the students was concerned, were practically useless. They all agreed that they were instrumental in providing several enjoyable social evenings for their year; chiefly, but beyond that their usefulness does not extend. Think for a moment, then, of the position in which the students as a whole are left. It means that in most affairs they have no general representatives. Take the dinner, for example. Some energetic fellow or fellows push it ahead and accomplish a splendid success; but these men are not looked upon by a great number of the students as their representatives, and consequently the students are not appealed to in the same way as if their own representatives were enthusiastically interested in it. I took the dinner as an example, but I might have taken almost any other *Varsity* function, and the same would apply to it. G. W. Ross.

(To be continued.)

#### THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

Let any man search the book of records of this time-honored institution and he will fail to find, at least in recent years, a meeting of a more phenomenal character than that which was held last Friday evening. In its course every man present took some part in the programme. Here indeed was the ideal attained of that large section of the Society's members, who have been clamoring for a method of conducting its meetings, by which the evil could be avoided of having a small coterie monopolize its advantages.

The vice-president, Mr. J. H. Hancock, took the chair, and announced that all notices of motion for changes in the constitution must be in by next Friday night, as a week later is constitution night. Mr. B. K. Sandwell gave notice that at the next meeting he would move that Massey Hall be engaged to hold the future meetings of the Society. Mr. C. Dickens Creighton gave an admirable reading, during the course of which the genial secretary, *pro tem.*, took upon himself in the Lit. the same privilege as the famous Otto von Bismarck took in the sleepy diet of Frankfort, by lighting his pipe. The debate was now opened by Mr. Martin in an excellent speech upon the question of England's justification in extending her colonial system. Mr. Pringle followed on behalf of the negative, showing as intimate an acquaintance with the subject at issue as with Biblical anecdotes. Messrs. Clegg, Watt, Nicol, Cohen, Wallbridge, and Elmslie followed with exceedingly interesting extempore efforts, Mr. Martin closing the debate. The chairman gave his decision, declaring the contest a draw. After Mr. Wallbridge had favored the Society with one of his inimitable solos, of

which only a first bass in the Glee Club is capable, the meeting adjourned.

\* \* \*

#### NOTICE OF MOTION.

I give notice that at the next regular meeting of the Society I shall move: "In view of the compilation of the new lists of life members of the Society, it shall be permissible for members of the Society at present in their third and fourth years to have their names enrolled as members for the years in which no elections occurred, on payment of a fee of \$1 for each such year." H. M. LITTLE.

#### PROF. STEPHENS' LECTURE ON ROBESPIERRE.

It was a large audience which greeted Prof. Stephens last Saturday afternoon. The lecturer prefaced his remarks by saying that he was one of what they had pleased to call the new school of history. Hitherto history has been written for the purpose of proving some thesis or building some theory. Men were represented as great heroes or great villains, all white or all black. The new school believed that the men of the past were, like other men, partly good and partly bad, not all white or all black, but some shade of grey, and it was their object to match the right shade of grey, to get the exact truth and tell it. Robespierre was one of those men who has been represented by historians and contemporaries as all or nearly all black. To him was attributed the chief part in organizing and directing the Reign of Terror and leading the Committee of Public Safety. Steeped in the doctrines of Rousseau, with as absolute belief in his works as the English Puritans in the Bible, he was opposed heart and soul to the Hibertists. The open celebration of the feast of reason made Robespierre, in his desire for their suppression, willing to become a member of the Committee of Public Safety. The committee, with the exception of Danton, was composed of men utterly unknown to the people. When Danton, tired of the bloody work, retired, the committee needed some man with a great name among them. Robespierre was one of the most popular and best known men in France, and so the choice fell on him. There were nine members of the committee, there were four departments, two to each department. Robespierre was left without any. Whatever any member proposed the whole were to concur in. Robespierre had no department, made few proposals in consequence, and was not the originator of any of the acts of the Reign of Terror. At the end of 1793 the members of the committee perceived that the Reign of Terror must cease, and that vengeance would be wreaked on the parties responsible. Robespierre believed that this was his great opportunity for putting Rousseau's doctrine into practice. A disagreement with the other members of the committee occurred. They had been seeking someone to make a scapegoat for all their crimes. They settled upon Robespierre. They assiduously disseminated the idea that Robespierre was responsible for the Reign of Terror. He retired from Paris to compose an oration, imagining, like many other idealists, that right would surely conquer. He returned and delivered a great oration, which carried the whole assembly with him. Through the adroitness of Robespierre's enemies, however, the tide quietly turned. He was arrested and guillotined. He was a sentimental idealist who carried his ideas to extremes. He hoped to inaugurate on earth Rousseau's humanitarian dreams. To accomplish his purpose he sanctioned the Reign of Terror. But yet he was opposed to bloodshed on principle, and opposed the war in 1791. Altogether there is much to admire in such a character, with such ideals.

# The Varsity

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## EDITORIAL.

 ONE time or another in the course of a lifetime, one must be struck by the enormous inconvenience and expense, which is entailed upon a State by the necessity under which it lies of restraining those of its individual citizens who have a tendency to infringe upon the rights of their fellows. We cannot help indulging in that ever-present dream of the true social philosopher, of the time when "the common sense of most shall hold a fretful realm in awe," when there shall be a due restraint of individual interests for the sake of the general good. A far-away day it seems, indeed, when a man's own natural inclinations will bring him to respect his neighbor's rights without being brought to do so by the use of force; yet the contemplation of its possibility cannot but suggest the thought that perhaps even now much could be accomplished by sometimes trusting to a citizen's own good qualities to keep him from doing what, as a rule, is now forbidden to him by the rigor of law. There has always been, from the time of Adam downwards, a sort of charm about forbidden fruit which makes the eating of it very attractive. Max O'Rell aptly illustrates the point, instancing the fact that in the great English school centres the cigarette is seldom, if ever, seen, while in France its popularity is very great. In the latter case, the smoking of the weed is forbidden; in the other it is not. A man's honor is often an admirable instrument to play upon to keep him from doing certain things, which otherwise it might be very difficult to prevent. Punishment in a great many cases might well be left to popular disapproval. There are people

who look upon a small misdemeanour, which has escaped the penalty, that is legally placed upon it as a clever trick; but, if there were no such penalty, if the matter were left in a man's hands to do as he liked, according as he wished to be considered an honorable man or otherwise, then we think that we should often see that these same people would severely censure the act. When the supreme power in the State takes upon itself to punish, men generally are apt to think that they themselves, as individuals, are relieved from every part of the duty. It seems an anomaly, but it is an undoubted fact of human nature.

To apply this to ourselves, it is clear to us that there are many cases in which it would be well to rely upon a man's honor in connection with his life as an undergraduate, where at present his conduct is strictly guarded. This reliance may be either express or implied. As an instance, would it not be an experiment, worthy of attempt, to allow an undergraduate to have easier access to the books at the library. This was advocated in these editorial columns last year; and it was then pointed out how at Oxford, where the student is allowed to come and go freely to the shelves, the number of books which disappeared were fewer than with us. When this permission is given, a man's honor is implied, and with that implication he would be an unworthy sort of a man if he proved false to the trust imposed in him. Yet where this trust is not shown, where the authorities show that they have no confidence in a man, many would not hesitate to keep a book in their possession, if they saw a good chance of escaping detection. And further, in such a case, those who were aware of the fact that such a book had been taken, would not feel as much bound to endeavor to secure its restoral.

In this connection, it is interesting to notice a plan, which the authorities at the University of Michigan have adopted, to do away in a measure with the annoying vigilance which now seems necessary in the conduct of examinations. Each person is required to write upon his paper on completing his examination: "I pledge my word of honor that I have neither received nor given help in this examination." A court is constituted for the trial of cases of dishonesty, which consists of seven members of the class, who are elected at the first regular meeting of the year. The trials are conducted secretly, no one being present but the members of the court, the witnesses, and the accused. The ballot of the court is secret, and judgment must be unanimous. In case of acquittal, absolute silence is to be maintained concerning the trial. Each member of the class is required to pledge himself to assist in the observance and execution of these laws. The proposal is interesting, and it would be useful to watch the results. But there is no doubt that it could prove really effective only in case of a healthy student opinion. If that opinion is so educated as to bring the greatest disfavor upon all such as are found unworthy of having their faith relied upon, then alone can an appeal to the honor of a student ever be used to make smoother, some of the features of our college life.

We have been in business **JUST FOUR MONTHS** in Toronto, and it has come to this:—Ask any student where

## THE CHAMPIONSHIP IN THE O. H. A.

The referee blew his whistle and the better team won. Again Queen's hockey team is safe in calling themselves the champions of Ontario and the Collegiate champions of America, and incidentally of the world. They played the fine combination game that is sure to bring victory to rest on its banners. Time and time again the forward line swung out, and by unselfish passing carried the puck down for the shot. The visitors' defence was not so strong as their forward line, and Merrill very rarely stopped the Varsity rushes. Curtis at point and Hiscock in goal, however, played strong, reliable games, and atoned for Merrill's defects. Although Varsity at times showed that they understood the combination game, they were unable to make use of their knowledge. Sheppard played his usual brilliant and erratic game, and his end-to-end rushes always raised the hopes of the "blue and white" supporters. Snell, too, lent his best efforts to maintain Varsity's honor: his play throughout was hard and unselfish, and his ducking was especially useful. Morrison and Parry both showed occasional brilliancy, but unfortunately neither were on hand at critical moments. Parry at cover and Scott at point both played hard and were kept steadily at it. Both of them were readily foiled by the Queen's combination, but lifted with great success. Waldie in goal was exceptionally brilliant, some of his stops being the equal of anything, seen in the city this winter. If all the Varsity defence had been as brilliant as he was, Queen's would in vain have tried to score.

The teams lined up as follows:—

Varsity—Goal, Waldie; point, Scott; cover, Parry; forwards from the right, Parry, Morrison, Snell, Sheppard.

Queen's—Goal, Hiscock; Point, Curtis; cover, Merrill; forwards from the right, Weatherhead, Harty, Dalton, Brock

Referee—E. P. Brown. Again Brown showed that he was one of the best referees the city has ever produced, and he captured offsides and fouls with unfailing accuracy and fairness.

Before the Varsity defence had realized that the game had begun Weatherhead carried the puck down the side, passed to centre and scored. Before Brown's whistle had stopped sounding at the face the puck was passed to Dalton who successfully shot, but fortunately he was offside. Sheppard now made a rapid sally on the Queen's defence, but lost the puck to Curtis, who in turn rushed and passed to Dalton, but here the puck went again to the "blue and white." Scott and Curtis now indulge in long lifts, which Sheppard follows down closely. Merrill and Dalton now combine, but Weatherhead is offside on the pass. From the face Morrison secured the puck, made a brilliant short rush followed by a long shot, which Hiscock stopped nicely. Morrison charged him, but Hiscock and Curtis carried the puck away. Snell and Sheppard, by a combined rush, again carried the puck to the corner, where Curtis and Brock also went. Several times the puck was sent to the centre and as often returned. Then the puck travelled determinedly down to Varsity's citadel, but the defence was good and Jack Parry hurries the puck up the ice to Merrill, who secured it and sent it back with a lift. Suddenly Sheppard again magnetized the puck and sallied again to the end, but a counter rush made work for the Varsity cover and point. Snell twice now made dangerous rushes, but had no support. Dalton and Weatherhead together manipulated a rush and Waldie was called on for a stop. Scott and Merrill and Curtis exchanged complimentary lifts. Snell again rushed the puck down, but Morrison failed in his shot and Harty rushed to the other end. Sheppard and Snell again brought the puck back, and "Shep" did some magnificent work in the

corner, but the centre was impregnable. Dalton now had a chance to shoot, but Waldie again was hit by it. Sheppard and Brock made gallant forays, but the score was not yet. Snell again worked the puck down, but Curtis held him and Merrill fed the puck to the forwards and Weatherhead scored, 2—0. From the face the game goes to Queen's end and Parry and Weatherhead engage in hard but good-natured checking in the corner. Sheppard and Snell again and again rushed, but lack of combination caused a failure to score. Dalton and Harty, too, got away, but could not get through the defence. After some minutes of even play the puck disappeared from the ice, and from the face off, Weatherhead secured and shot with effect, 3—0. For the remaining few minutes the defence of both sides were kept busy. Queen's organized a grand combine, but a shout of joy told that Waldie had gone one better. Snell at last got a clean shot, but Hiscock touched it and it went too high.

The play of the second half was almost as fast as that of the first, and was mainly a succession of individual brilliant rushes for Varsity and good combination ones for Queen's. The puck at once sought the Varsity end, but found it too hot, so under coaxing of Snell and Sheppard, tried the other end. Snell and Sheppard both had shots, but Hiscock stopped both. Brock, by hypnotic influence, induced the puck to travel with him, and Dalton was able to avoid Waldie, and a long-drawn sigh announced a goal, 4—0. Scott and Curtis tossed the puck about, and then Harty, Brock and Dalton formed up and succeeded in scoring, 5—0. Waldie is again demanded to stop and lift the disk away. Dalton and Curtis rush, but are called back on an off-side. Snell and Sheppard worked the puck down, and from a "scrim" Morrison scored, 5—1. Brock forced Waldie to work and almost scored. Snell now was working splendidly, and he and "Shep" continually bothered the "striped" defence. Hiscock is called on for two stops. Harty, then Snell, then Dalton, made relieving rushes, but the play for a minute or two settled at Varsity's end. The visitors now combined for splendid rushes. Dalton, Harty and Weatherhead came down and drew out the defence, but Waldie single-handed averted the score by a piece of magnificent work. Morrison and Snell combined and almost scored. Again Hiscock proved that "there is many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip." The visiting forwards were now forming up and showing more combination than in the first half, and only the hard checking of the defence and forwards averted the scoring. Snell and Sheppard, or Morrison, found a plan for combination, but had no effect, although they had two good chances. Waldie again made a phenomenal stop, but a minute later Weatherhead scored on one from the side, 6—1. Three distinct times in the remaining minutes Varsity almost scored, but Hiscock and Curtis were successful in saving. Queen's, too, tried hard to increase their lead, but failed; and so closed the hardest fought game Varsity has played this season.

## MODERN LANGUAGE CLUB.

The regular meeting of the club was held Monday evening last in Room 4. The programme consisted of three good papers which concluded the series dealing with the French Drama. They were as follows:—

Alexandre Dumas, fils.	- - -	R. H. Rowland
François Coppee	- - -	Miss Mullins
Maeterlinck	- - -	J. G. Muir

The closing meeting of the term will be held next Monday, at which Miss Lawson will read a paper on Jane Austen, and W. H. Alexander one on George Eliot. All are invited.

to be photographed and we are quite willing to stand by the decision.—Frederick Lyonde, Photographer, 101 King St. W.

## THE CONVERSAT BALL.

Editor of VARSITY:

Dear Sir,—The years of student life are a four years' interval from the wide world of action. In the seclusion to which curriculum necessities force each student more or less, there cannot but arise the need for dropping to some degree out of the course of present events and living in the sequestered worlds of science or literature. When a student turns from his seat at the library tables, or from investigating in the laboratory, and goes down into the heart of business Toronto, he can feel for himself how the academic world has influenced his mind and mode of living. When our undergraduate days are over, we should look back to them and their environments as to a sort of ideal world—the calm, quiet preparation for the activities of a life among men.

Now, as our University has before it this purpose—to prepare a man for intelligent work in life in various spheres, in short education, it will not be out of place to note here a phase or two of student life which bears directly on his ability to take a stand in the world. We have spoken of the natural tendency of a student to get to some degree out of touch with the work-a-day world. There is no denying that every true student has a world of his own. Just as one mill-hand or railway porter associates with another of his class, so a Varsity man feels more at home with his fellows. This association of students is a factor in his culture which must not be ignored. Naturally a student must limit his time of recreation and so the result of each little bit of contact is all the more apparent.

We have heard more than once the statement that "Canadian students as a rule are not cultured," and we acknowledge it is true; but, what is more, present circumstances are against developing culture *in that section of the student body in which it is most lacking*. Without entering on discussions of chimerical things, let us look at a fact or two which front us now, and which may be remedied by us.

The question of dancing is still a disputed one in many minds—in many student minds; but most generally in the minds of those very students who need, and feel the need of contact with higher social life, to give them that ease, grace and polish which they lack. Casually asking some of the boys if they were going to the *Conversazione* this year, we met with this answer from fully a dozen, "No, I can't dance, and there won't be any use going if you can't dance." In nearly every case there was added a regret that they couldn't go to the one social event of

their Alma Mater. More than one went farther and recalled the fact that other social functions of a smaller scale were falling into line; but it is improper and out of our sphere to look at anything but the one event before us. Gradually the undancing element (Is it a small one?), of the student body is being proscribed, and the circle of its social life has dwindled to one or two class receptions a year, at which the student has little chance of gaining any idea of "society" in its wider meaning at all.

This is the negative side of the question. On the other hand, those who dance are monopolizing an undue amount of the pleasures of these events. To say, "If you don't dance you can promenade," is deceitful, putting it mildly. It is likely that a man who is in sound health, and not a too ardent devotee of Bacchus, will be able to walk—if he wants to! He knows that much himself; but he also knows that when a programme of any event announces that dancing starts at 10:15 p.m, it is merely a ball to which he is going, and that the other parts of the programme are accessories of the dance.

There is a wide-spread belief among the men students that the girls of Varsity are more than normally fond of dancing. We only mention it as a fallacy which has deceived many of the men. We are sure they are not, as a class, more fond of it than other girls—possibly a little the opposite—and would be quite willing to have some social events in which they could meet some of the men who have scruples against the ball—rightly or wrongly does not concern us here.

It is a thing to be regretted that this question has arisen, for it is based on moral beliefs to a large extent, and the foundation of the difficulty cannot be reached. But when there does exist a difference of opinion so marked as is universally known to exist upon this point, would it be anything but a graceful thing for those who dance to leave open one event in the year, so that no division could arise? The only way in which such a programme can be at all fair is to have dancing removed to such a late hour as to make it secondary, or else two separate events; for experience shows that when a dance comes on equal footing with other attractions, at our University at least, it calls away the majority and sets going a movement ending—as last year's *conversat*.

There are other things to be said, but we leave them. If any student wishes to controvert this article let him not stray into the moral question of dancing, for neither he nor we, nor this paper, have any right to discuss things like that before the student body.

Yours, etc.,

JOHN W. FARMER.

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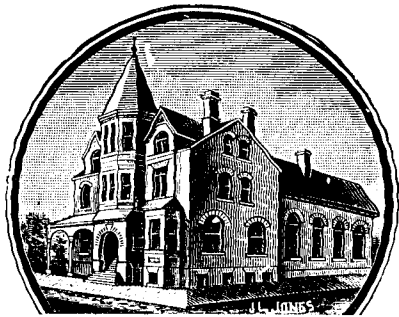
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The following is the list of the officers of the Baseball Club, omitted from last issue :

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President	-	Hon. A. T. Wood
Vice-President	-	J. C. Breckenridge, B.A.
Second Vice-Pres.	-	B. French.
Sec.-Treas.	-	J. R. Meredith.
Captains	-	{ F. H. Barron.
		{ E. N. Armour.
Curator	-	W. A. Smith.
Fourth Year Rep.	-	F. D. Woodworth
Third Year Rep.	-	R. H. Grier.
Second Year Rep.	-	W. A. Stratton.
First Year Rep.	-	H. Robertson.
Third and Fourth Year		
Meds.	-	G. A. Campbell.
First and Second Year		
Meds.	-	W. B. S. Donald.
Victoria	-	J. R. Parry.
St. Michael's	-	F. McDermott.
S. P. S.	-	W. H. Morrison.
Dental	-	{ J. Hutchinson.
		{ R. Elliott.
Managers	-	{ J. L. Counsell.
		{ P. A. T. Johnston, B.A.

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF  
TORONTO ROWING CLUB.

—  
*Name.*

1. This Club shall be called the "University of Toronto Rowing Club."

*Membership.*

2. (1) Graduates and undergraduates in the University of Toronto and in any of the affiliated Colleges shall be eligible for membership.

(2) Members of all the faculties of the University of Toronto shall be eligible for membership.

*Officers.*

3. The officers of this club shall be an Hon. President, President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer and Captain, and a Committee composed of three members.

*Elections.*

4. (1) The Hon. President, President, Vice-President

and Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected annually at the annual meeting of the club.

(2) The officers of the Club shall select from the Undergraduate body of the University of Toronto, three members to form with themselves an Executive Committee of Management.

(3) This selection shall be made at the first meeting of the new officers each year.

(4) The Captain shall be elected by the active rowing members of the Club at such time as is deemed advisable by the Committee of Management. On his election he shall become *ex officio* a member of the Committee of Management.

*Fees.*

5. (1) The annual membership fee for this Club shall be \$5.50.

(2) No one whose annual membership fee is not paid shall be eligible for office.

(3) Only members whose fees are paid can vote at the annual meeting.

6. The Annual Meeting shall be held in February.

7. (1) This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those present at the Annual Meeting, provided that notice of such proposed amendment has been sent to the Secretary-Treasurer at least one week previous to the Annual Meeting.

(2) Notwithstanding, if such notice has not been given, the amendment may be adopted by a unanimous vote of those present at the Annual Meeting.

—  
Y. W. C. A.

The regular meeting of the Y.W.C.A. was held on Tuesday last. The attendance was not very large, as the members do not seem to have become accustomed as yet to the change in the day of meeting. After the business part of the meeting was disposed of, the topics for the day were taken up. A paper was read by Miss Darling, '00, on the parable of "The Two Sons," and another by Miss Sealey, '99, on the "Ten Virgins." After calling attention to the Bible Class on Sunday afternoon, Miss Bapty dismissed the meeting.

E. SEALEY,

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**CORRIDOR CULLINGS.**

Do not forget the Banjo Concert on Friday night.

The Political Science Club meeting for last Thursday was postponed.

On Saturday afternoon Mr. B. K. Sandwell gave a delightful afternoon tea, in his room in Residence, to a number of his friends.

For the past week or so, a visitor to the Parliamentary library might well mistake it for an extension of the University library reading-room.

On Monday morning Prof. Morse Stephens lectured to the fourth year class in history on "Nationalism." Needless to say, it was much enjoyed.

Mr. W. B. Scott, '97, the representative of the Literary Society to the Trinity Conversat, and Mr. H. M. Little, '97, to the Pharmacy dinner, discharged their respective duties during

the past week. Both report very enjoyable times.

Mr. Ivan L. Hyland, B.A., '95, is holding forth as curate of St. Stephen's church, Seattle, U. S. A.

The general meeting of the Glee Club, for the purpose of nomination of officers for the ensuing year, and of allowing amendments to be made in the Constitution, will be held next Friday.

The following clipping may show the disadvantages under which our various athletic organizations labor in competing with those upon the other side of the line: "The Candidates for the lacrosse team have been prevented from regular field practice for some time owing to the cold weather. The squad work on the asphalt or in the gymnasium, however, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Since the holidays most of last year's men have been resting, only the new can

didates coming out every day. No regular games have been scheduled yet for the spring, but scrub games will be played as soon as the ground becomes soft enough.—*Harvard Crimson.*

After the lecture in the Students' Union building on Saturday afternoon, President and Mrs. Loudon entertained, at their home on St. George Street, a large number of their friends, for the purpose of meeting the University's distinguished guest, Professor Morse Stephens.

Everything seems to point to a most successful season for the Baseball Club. An extended tour is being arranged by the manager, Mr. J. L. Counsell. A second team will be put in the field, so that all may have an opportunity of gaining practice in matches. The membership fee will be one dollar. It will be endeavored to secure the playing of inter-year matches.

**Shorthand Class**

One of the members of the Class lately concluded is taking copious notes of lectures, beautifully written, and one of the lady pupils of the same Class writes to a pupil in the present one that she has attained a speed of 120 words a minute.

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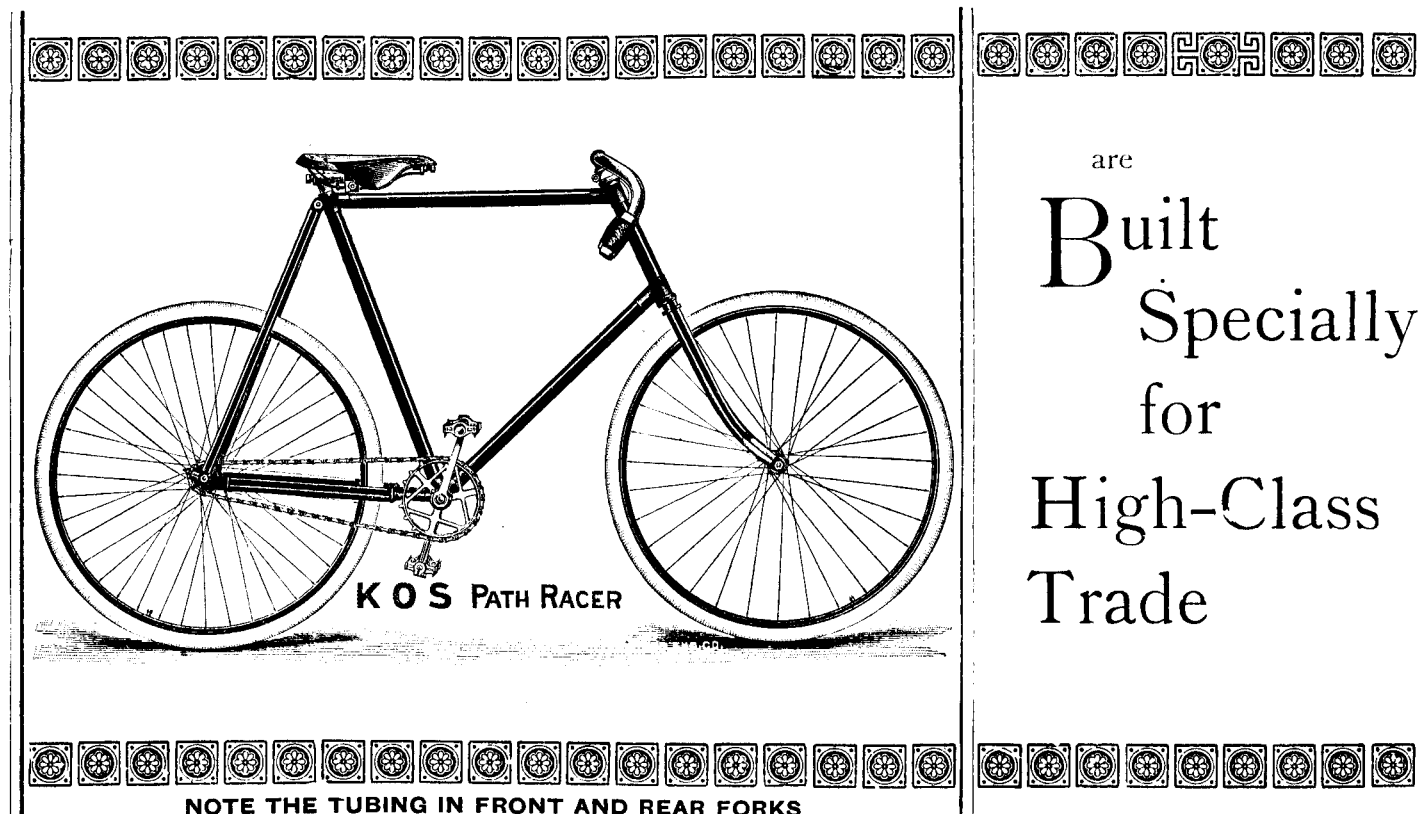
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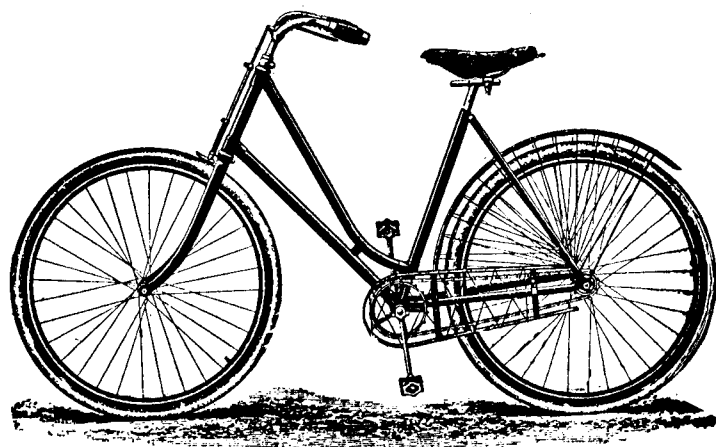
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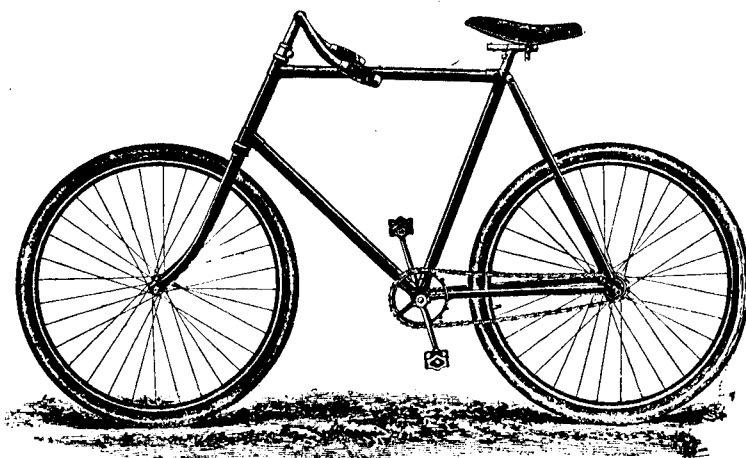
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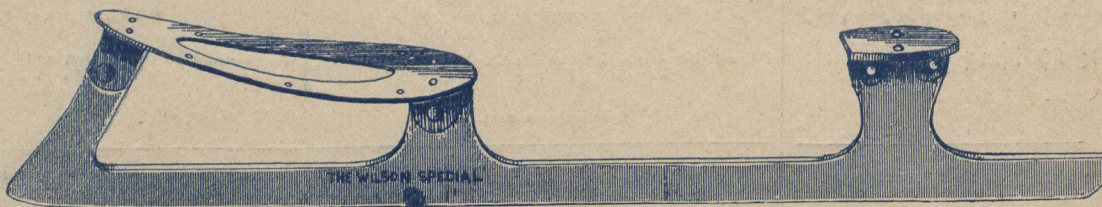
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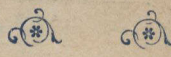
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