



Vol. V., No. 2.

Toronto, Nov. 1, 1884.

Price 10 cents.

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THE ' VARSITY:

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF

EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY POLITICS AND EVENTS.

Vol. V.

TORONTO, November 1, 1884.

No. 2.

Editorial Notes.

Circulating through the principal Canadian and American Colleges, the ' VARSITY is the means of diffusing a wide knowledge of our University, and is to a great many the index of its character. It is therefore with great pleasure that we can announce that Dr. Wilson and other members of the Faculty will be contributors to the ' VARSITY during the coming year. As marking their appreciation of our journal this is a significant fact.

The question of co-education has been re-opened by "By-stander" in the *Week*. We publish elsewhere a communication in reply to that writer's remarks. As we have said, the ' VARSITY, now that co-education is adopted in our college, will remain in a strictly critical position as regards the system, until a reasoned opinion, based on its actual working with us, is possible. This being understood, we are free to say that the *Week* and the *Mail* as well, have too hastily announced the failure of the system here, as the data in the case up to the present time do not bear out their assertion. The letter of "Veritas" is noteworthy as representing the view of the friends of co-education.

The fullest liberty has always been allowed in THE ' VARSITY for the expression of views in disaccord with those of the Editor. We have even been blamed for allowing too much latitude in this respect; and perhaps in the publication of "B's" letter on our Prize-Poem criticism there is a case in point. We regret that the writer has not seen fit to append his name to his communication, as his standing in the class-lists would have given it a value that its intrinsic worth will hardly afford. It would be unbecoming on our part, on considering the poet's own position in the matter, to continue a discussion necessarily so personal to him. In any case he should have the trust that if he has written true poetry, "it dwelleth apart," standing beyond and above criticism, and will outlive all such.

A collection of twenty-four of the essays and reviews of Frederick Diez, the great philologist of Bonn, has just been published under the editorial supervision of one of his admiring disciples. Like Littré, Diez was in the habit of giving practical illustrations of his own theories of translation, and this volume contains animated and poetic renderings into German of Byron's "Corsair" and "Lara." Those students of modern languages, who know Diez only as the author of the "Grammar" and "Dictionary" of the Romance Languages, will be interested in this phase of literary activity.

The first volume of Parkman's "Montcalm and Wolfe," which has just appeared, will be cordially welcomed by all students of Canadian history. The last published member of his great series was the one on "Frontenac," which appeared

six years ago. Until the second volume of "Montcalm and Wolfe" is placed alongside of the first it is impossible to compare them with the author's previous works in point of either artistic treatment or intrinsic interest. There are indications even in the one already to hand, however, that the historian will not stoop or falter as he approaches the climax towards which he has long been working—the culmination of the struggle between England and France in the New World.

At a recent meeting of the overseers of Harvard University arrangements were made to have two courses of lectures delivered during the current session in that institution, on what is called the "trade question." The one course will be from the free-trade, the other from the protection point of view, the former being assigned to Mr. E. L. Godkin, editor of the *New York Nation*, the latter to Prof. R. E. Thompson, editor of the *Philadelphia American*. Readers of these two high-class weekly journals, the equals in point of ability of any in the world, will have no difficulty in forming some conception of the fine intellectual treat in store for the students of Harvard. Why should not some eclectic system of this kind be adopted by the management of University College? It is out of place to say that the lecturers cannot be found until some effort has been made to ascertain whether such is the case or not.

Echoes are wonderful things and there are many of them in existence. Some will repeat with distinctness and accuracy several lines of a song and others whole conversations. But perhaps the most remarkable, if not among those best known to fame, is the *Colby Echo*, hailing from Colby University of Waterville, Maine, and owned and managed by the students of that institution. Wonderful to relate, it is able to repeat, without a mistake, the whole of Mr. Haultain's admirable article on "Artistic Profanity," of our issue of June 10th, and like the veritable live echo that it is, gives no intimation of the whereabouts of the original voice. Even the *Fredericton Monthly* is deceived, and with much wagging of its liberal ears rushes into print with a criticism of the article, quarrelling with the unsubstantial air, be it also said with much expenditure of the same. THE ' VARSITY will continue to keep due watch on the *Colby Echo*, lest by neglect of observation a great natural curiosity should be lost to fame.

The spirit of religious prejudice and intolerance which did so much to precipitate the Canadian rebellion of 1837 and which has made no end of trouble since, is not dead yet. "A Parent" has written a letter to one of the city journals complaining in bitter terms that the students of Trinity College are preparing to take part through their representatives in the meetings of the Inter-Collegiate Missionary Alliance, which are about to be held in this city. The writer bases his objection on the statement that such action by Trinity College students implies that they regard one denomination to be to a certain extent as good as another, and this, "Parent" thinks, is an exceedingly dangerous and mischievous doctrine. It is true, no doubt, as "Parent" says, that such a movement is little in accord with the spirit

which moved the late Bishop Strachan and led to the establishment of Trinity College. We had hoped that this unchristian and uncharitable desposition had died out. But it is to be regretted that such reprehensible efforts should be made to keep it alive as are manifested in the bigoted letters of "Parent," and the recent untruthful and virulent diatribes of the *Dominion Churchman* directed against University College.

We are sorry to learn that the recent trouble in the Rugby Club, referred to in another column, has brought matters into such a state as to threaten its complete disorganization; and at a time, too, when the enthusiasm of the members and their interest in the club should have been at their highest. At a meeting which was being held as we went to press, a resolution of want of confidence in the committee was passed by a vote of fifteen to eleven. The committee, as a consequence, immediately resigned, and although the remarks of those in favour of the resolution plainly showed that it aimed only at the removal of one or two of their number, refused on any account to stand for re-election. Under the circumstances, with the match with Guelph arranged for this morning, and the McGill affair so close at hand, the action of those enforcing the want of confidence motion was certainly hasty and ill-timed, showing quite the reverse of the interest which we know them to feel in the club. We trust the committee will think seriously over the matter, and see the necessity of continuing in their positions. We are sure that they have the confidence of the undergraduates generally, if there does happen to be, as has been shown to be the case, fifteen whose self-interest knows no expediency.

The *New York Nation* gives a brief notice of the great trio of British mathematicians, Sir William Thomson, of Glasgow, Prof. Cayley, of Cambridge, and Prof. Gillespie, now of Oxford. The last has been for years a member of the staff of Johns Hopkins University, and the first has just finished a special course of lectures in that institution on Light. Prof. Cayley appeared before American audiences as a lecturer some years ago. According to the *Nation*: "All three are distinguished from the ordinary lecturer by the absence of bookishness, by a power of fresh and vivid presentation which one may naturally expect from a man who speaks on a subject which is largely his own creation. Sylvester is the most unequal, perhaps the most stimulating as well as enjoyable when full of triumph and enthusiasm, and the least so when uninspired by fresh achievement. Cayley is the most even and methodical; nothing ruffles the serenity of his steady progress, either in exposition or in research, Sir William Thomson has in the highest degree the power of putting himself *en rapport* with his hearers—of making them, as he has said, his co-efficients in the work before him. His numerous mechanical inventions show the practical bent of his mind. All three are splendid examples of the frank kindliness, the desire to lend a friendly helping hand to all with whom they come in contact, which are so much the secret of the English charm of manner."

Printed elsewhere may be found a communication from a member of the always recruiting Freshman ranks relative to the system of conducting the debate of the Literary Society. Our correspondent pours forth in rather more forcible fashion than usual the ever-recurring complaint on this much vexed question. The burden of his lament is to the effect that there exists in the well-recognized freshman modesty, not to speak of liability to extinguishment at the hands of senior brethren, an insurmountable barrier to all attempts to pluck Demosthenes down from the highest pinnacle of oratorical fame. He concludes with a suggestion, nay even with a vehemently expressed desire, that the Promethean spark should be inspired once more into the now cold ashes of the quondam Forum. Jest aside, the very mention of the name of a Society which

was quietly, though suddenly inurned at the beginning of the year indicates that there yet remains a radical defect in the character of the meetings of the Literary Society. It is an unquestionable fact that something more than the ordinary yawning provoking disputation will be found necessary to allure the studious undergraduate and the would-be future orator to the Society's chambers in Moss Hall. At present the only remedy seems to be a recourse to the former plan of providing a double ring for the eager belligerents, a more liberal sprinkling of the class of meetings denominated 'open,' as well as a vigorous personal encouragement on the part of the members of the Committee to those whom they find to be of a timid and retiring disposition. And here we may just say that our correspondent need have no apprehension that any member of the Society, not even though he belong to the class of undergraduated Freshmen will be discouraged in his "crude attempts to display his stunted oratory," provided, to be sure, that their 'attempts' be made in the proper spirit, and with some measure of decorum. But if, after all is said and done, our correspondent and his confreres find that their peculiar wants are not satisfied, then we recommend them by all means, to look vigilantly after their own interests, even should they go to the length of resurrecting the Society already mentioned. For the rest we may say that we look forward hopefully to the time when the Literary Society will be freed from the embarrassing trammels of the Council's supervising jurisdiction. We confidently believe that the spirit of the graduates and undergraduates will one day rise and rescue their Society from a patronage, which however well interposed cannot fail to have a blighting influence, and place it to flourish in the wholesome atmosphere of independence, then do we prophecy, and not till then, there will be a genuine collegelife, leaving in its train imperishable memories, to say nothing of the substantial influence that would be exerted by the sons of Toronto University on the affairs of both their college and their country.

THE DECLINE IN CLASSICAL EDUCATION.

Previous to the Renaissance the study of the classical languages was carried on partially for the sake of the mental discipline which those studies involved, but mainly, perhaps, for the sake of information and instruction. The Renaissance and the Reformation introduced a new motive, more especially for the study of Greek. Since it was the language of the New Testament, the greater prominence which that book now began to assume naturally led to increased interest in the study of the language in which it was written. Moreover, western philosophy was oppressed with the yoke of Aristotle, and the flight of the Greeks from Constantinople brought relief through the medium of Platonic study. This circumstance also tended to extend the rank and widen the influence of the classics in general. During subsequent centuries a truer idea of the potential advantages in classical study gradually began to prevail. What that idea was we shall see presently.

Of late years, however, we appear to have returned to the old view that the object of classical study is classical knowledge and not classical culture, or what has been called by that name in virtue of the fact that it is, perhaps, most perfectly obtained through the medium of intelligent classical study. To be specific, the classics are eminently adapted for the development of a habit of close observation, the cultivation of the faculty of discrimination and literary taste, and for the improvement of the capacity for expression. But as they are at present studied these powers and faculties of the mind are but little exercised, and the special *ratio essendi* of classical learning has ceased to exist. All the intellectual revenue that is now derived from this source is a vast amount of intrinsically useless facts of so-called classical knowledge, along with which is obtained a certain cultivation of the memory. There is little valuable mental discipline in the study.

This state of things seems to point to the prevalence of an erroneous conception of what intellectual education in its essence really consists. The true conception

is finely put in the sketch of Columbia College which appears in the current number of *Harper's Magazine*. In the year 1810 a committee of that College, in their report, defined education to be "*the evolution of the faculties and the development of habit.*" It will be observed that nothing whatever is said here about the acquisition of knowledge, classical or otherwise. The literal meaning of the word education is preserved, and it is considered to be the function of educational institutions to lead out or develop the mental faculties of the student, and not simply to instruct him or build up in his mind a fabric of knowledge. Colleges were correctly regarded as gymnasiums for the mind. The student was given the bare text of the author, with the dictionary and grammar, and he was required in the main to work out the author's meaning for himself. And thus the language was made rather a means to an end than an end itself. The object of the study was not at all classical knowledge itself, but the rigorous and comprehensive mental discipline which was acquired in the process of working out that knowledge.

But now the knowledge is in a large measure already worked for the student in special vocabularies and elaborate foot-notes and petty commentaries attached to the text, and in literal translations. Thus the main object of classical education is entirely defeated, and instead of that education we have a system of mere intellectual spoon-feeding. It is the editor of the text-book or the author of the translation who receives all the education in the case; the student gets only the instruction. But the mental muscles of youth will not be developed so long as they receive all their nutriment in this way, and so long as all the intellectual gymnastics are performed by others.

The mischief, however it was begun, may be said to have been very much aggravated in the United States by the publication of Professor Anthon's annotated editions of the classics, and in Britain by Bohn's translations. The evil has probably not spread so widely in the latter country as in the United States and in Canada. Here, while every undergraduate must ordinarily include one or both of the classical languages in his course of study, yet it is well known that owing to the vicious methods of study in vogue the amount of real culture received from this source is almost absolutely *nil* to all but the few students who make these languages a specialty. It has even become possible for students to take a very high stand on the lists by sheer dint of memorizing power alone.

And so it has come about that in the intellectual city of Boston, recently, Charles Francis Adams, himself a thorough classical scholar, but observant of the fact that classical study is no longer productive of the high culture which was claimed for it, went so far as to attack it vigorously in a public address under the name of "The College Fetish." The address was subsequently published and received an immense circulation; and but a few months since this attack, was followed by another in the *Century*, by President Eliot. But the objections brought forward by these two gentlemen do not really hold against the classics as a means of education, but only against that means as it is at present abused. There are still all its old virtues in the subject itself; only let us return to the old methods of using it. To this end let a more vigorous and manly spirit of independent effort be cultivated among students themselves, and encouraged by all who have any influence in this direction.

Much good would be done also if more attention was paid in our high schools and colleges to reading *ad aperturam libri*. This feature might also with great advantage be introduced into even the Pass Examinations of the University, and given considerable prominence, under due limitations, of course, with respect to the difficulty of the passages selected for translation.

Another means by which more conscientious and thorough work could be secured in this department would be the selection for examinations on prescribed authors of short and difficult phrases and sentences instead of long and continuous paragraphs as at present. This would necessitate closer study, and would tend to confine memorizing to individual words and abstract relations, and this alone ought in general to be the province of memory in the study of the dead languages. The adoption of such a system as we have here outlined, might require the reduction of the number of authors prescribed for study on the Pass course, that is, if only the same relative importance as at

present continued to be allowed to classics in the curriculum. But few would doubt that if even only three authors each year were studied as we have described, the results would be much beyond what now follow the study of twice that number.

THE NEW CRITICISM!

A witty Frenchman, M. Timon, once said, "*que le ministre de l'Instruction Publique doit lui-meme savoir parler Francais.*" This remark was very forcibly recalled to my mind by reading the article by Mr. J. E. Collins in a recent issue of the *Week* on "English-Canadian Literature." One is reasonably entitled to expect that a writer on such a subject, and in such a journal, would show a decent regard for the English language. But if Shakespeare laid a curse upon any one who should violate his tomb, what punishment would be severe enough for the man who has desecrated Shakespeare's language in the atrocious manner of Mr. Collins.

With what deftness and ease does the critic decapitate Canadian authors! But, in the name of charity, what have most of these unfortunates done that they should be reviewed by Mr. Collins?

Our historians have fared the worst from the critic. He says, "In historic literature we have a number of books, most of them very poor (!) the balance (!) of them not very good." With what refined cruelty does the critic punish the delinquents! He does not take a wheel to break such butterflies; he merely refers to their books as "poor," or as "the balance," just as he would speak of stocks and cash, and goods, and other base commodities. Indeed, elsewhere in this article he *actually* does talk of "taking stock of fiction and essay work," and of "one of our most able lady writers, Miss Louise Murray"! Alas that Miss Murray should have lived to meet such a fate as this!

Mr. McMullen, we are told, got many of his facts for his history of Canada "out of the air." And, horrible to relate! "It was through such means that came about all the carnage at Montgomery's tavern." Surely this matter ought to be inquired into at once. What is our Crown Attorney, Mr. Fenton, doing that he has not had Mr. McMullen brought to justice long ago for this terrible treason? It would seem that the vulgar public have been utterly astray heretofore as to the causes of this disaster. Neither the Family Compact nor William Lyon Mackenzie could have had anything to do with the matter, for Mr. Collins assures us that Mr. McMullen, by some devilish necromancy, I suppose, "got it out of the air"! True, not all of it, but "about all"! If these are not the exact facts of the case, I may excuse my misapprehension by saying of Mr. Collins' sentence, as he himself a little farther on says of Mr. Christie's history, that "it is exceedingly ill-ordered," and that "there is no index or device of any sort to point the searcher to the fact that he may desire." And, by the way, a searcher who "desires" (!) facts does not deserve to get them until he can ask for them in intelligible English.

Thomas D'Arcy McGee must have been, to say the least, a very strange man to behave in the extraordinary fashion described by Mr. Collins. Not only does he seem to have been guilty of "pounding a desk" while "on the stamp," but worse still, he is represented as "swinging his arms—when writing history!"

On the whole, Mr. Collins does not think much of our Canadian histories. They seem to him to "exhibit none of the qualities that make the histories of Carlyle, of Froude, of McCarty, "*full of interest as well as moving pictures*"! Here is an idea for Canadian authors and publishers! If they would only "fill their books with interest and moving pictures," they would not fail to meet with Mr. Collins' approbation, and so command larger sales. Mere stationary pictures are no longer of any service; they must be made to move somehow, Mr. Collins thinks; but unfortunately he does not tell us how this panoramic feat is to be accomplished within the limited space of a volume octavo or quarto.

In speaking of Colonel G. T. Denison our critic says that "a red flag has the same effect upon him as a member of another

order of creation"! Does Mr. Collins not see a very large bull in this sentence somewhere in addition to the one referred to in the hackneyed simile?

Mr. Roberts must have felt pleased when he read that Mr. Collins considered him not only "virile," but also "manly." But it is no doubt quite a surprise to Professors Bailey, Hind and Macoun to learn that it was merely their "names" and not they themselves that have been "industriously garnering and putting to the general stock of English literature."

In conclusion, however, to give our new critic the praise to which he is justly entitled, I have no hesitation in saying that he displays a much better knowledge of many other things than of plain, old-fashioned English Grammar.

Toronto.

SIGMA.

WET GRASS.

Like Herr Diogenes Teufelsdröck or the Roof Philosopher, I have a watch-tower overlooking a great city; from its windows I can see every hour of the day, if I choose to look, the waters of a mighty lake. I have looked so often that I know it as a lover knows the face of his mistress, with its every fitting shadow, change of feature, phase of expression. I never weary.

"Age cannot change, nor passion stale
Her infinite variety."

The clouds that hung above thee all yesterday, heavily even and grey, making thee but a dull-coloured ribbon on their skirts, have dropped down to-day and blotted out thy face in a mist of rain. Oftenest thou art a broad wall of deepest blue, rising against the last houses threateningly. All thy changes bring new delight. Once I looked and saw thee seething in a white fire, all thy waves molten and glowing, marble snow moved by a welling life within. The next day thou wert all one steely glitter, like unto transparent glass; the next, the wall was down, thrown flat, and thou looked the living troubled sea thou art, long lines of white-caps rolling to the low beach and breaking there so plainly in the bright sunlight. I could almost hear their thunderous roar.

I could not stay apart from thee, and so in midwinter I made a pilgrimage to thee across long plains of snow, swept by fierce winds. Nothing but drifted snow underfoot, hard and white, moulded and carved in all manner of curious devices by the sculptor-wind that came driving his long snakes of snow along the glaring levels. Still I could not see thee. I came nearer and nearer till the snow rose in a huge drift before me. Crossing the rounded hillock I beheld thee! crisping dark, green and mysterious above the white snow.

Thalasse! Thalasse! as the Grecian vanguard cried when from the summit of the lofty hill their land-wearied eyes first caught the distant flash of their beloved sea. I stood and feasted my eyes on the beauty of thy winter waves, green under the fateful sky, and thy mimic Greenland coast with its ice-burges, its glaciers and wave-eaten cliffs.

Then I had to say farewell and I turned from thee with a promise, a longing and a dream of the days of summer. Then my Lake, I shall bathe me in thy waters; in stormy afternoons heaving shoreward on the back of some huge billow to the lonely beach of sand; in the stillness of fresh mornings when the spirits of the air as the old Greeks dreamed, caress the naked body; in breathless noons when all things quiver in the heat, plunging from the granite step of some little island, down, down into the transparent coolness, and leaving the hot day and the fevered earth-life behind.

BOHEMIEN.

CONVOCATION HALL AND THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

Visitors to the College on Convocation Day would have looked in vain on their programmes for an announcement of one part of the proceedings. That part was the music furnished from the gallery by the performers on horns, kazooos, and other such instruments. The manipulators of these instruments succeeded admirably in preventing the audience from hearing much of the President's address. One can hardly say that this loss was compensated for by the strains of sweet harmony from the gallery. Whether a suitable return was made to the President for his unvarying kindness and courtesy to every student of University College, is at least questionable. It is most certain that few of the audience were enchanted with the music referred to.

The same kind of entertainment has often in the past been furnished to those who have attended the public meetings of the Literary and Scientific Society. It is beyond question that such conduct is prejudicial to the success of our public meetings. Difficulty enough must in any case be found in carrying on a series of public meetings. It is rather too bad that this difficulty should be increased by any member of the Society. The reception given him by the occupants of the gallery does not much conduce to awaken enthusiasm or inspire confidence in one appointed to assist in the carrying out of the evening's programme. The music of tin horns is not likely to attract to these meetings large or interested audiences.

Those who indulge in this amusement on such an occasion are doing a great injustice especially to the speakers. I do not say that this injustice is intentional. I do not assert and would be slow to believe that any member of the Society deliberately sets himself to render the attempt to speak a failure. Still, since those appointed to this duty are not usually so well-trained as to be able to speak in spite of constant interruption, failure is likely to be the result of such interruptions as speakers at our public meetings meet with. When we consider that one selected to represent the society at a meeting of this kind, has a good deal of labour to perform, it does not seem unreasonable to expect that he shall be treated with common courtesy while endeavoring to perform the duty assigned him.

If our public meetings are to be of any real service to the Society or the College they must be conducted in such a way as to attract people of culture and taste. It does not seem to me likely that such an audience will very often submit to the torture inflicted by the instruments most highly esteemed by the musicians of the gallery. The fact is that people of even ordinary cultivation look upon such conduct as a species of rowdyism, and resent it as such.

The Society owes the use of Convocation Hall for its public meetings to the courtesy of the Council. It is surely due to the Council that no conduct disagreeable to its members be exhibited at these meetings. And the President has expressed very distinctly his disapproval of the horn-blowing usually heard on such occasions.

It is becoming more and more evident both at the public and ordinary meetings of the Society, that a species of rowdyism is thought by many to be the correct thing. Those who wish to keep untarnished the reputation of the Society ought to make it clearly understood that any such conduct will not be tolerated. The Society has for its aim the cultivation of the powers of thought and expression in its members. If it is allowed gradually to become a sort of substitute for a bar-room, the sooner it is abolished the better.

The above remarks are offered with a sincere desire to advance the interests of the Society. It ought certainly to be one of the most important agents in the student's training. Loyalty to the Society, true *esprit de corps* demands that every member shall strive to keep it free from anything that will prevent the attainment of its end.

J. McD. DUNCAN.

MUSICAL NOTES.

The prospects for a very successful year in musical matters in University College are most encouraging. The Glee Club, numbering already over fifty carefully selected voices, is practising a part song, "The Rose of Woerthersee," by Th. Koshat, to be given at the coming public debate, on Friday evening, the 14th of November. Prof. F. H. Torrington has consented to take charge of the Club this year, and it goes without saying that if properly supported by the members, he will be able to produce excellent results. Last year, it must be confessed that the Glee Club was not a success. The music was not carefully selected; a good deal of it had been given before, and the Club had, on more than one occasion, to fall back on such pieces as 'Kemo Kimo,' 'Litoria,' and other sadly familiar selections, in order to keep going at all. The Club practised almost exclusively for concerts held outside of Toronto, and evidently thought that anything would do for the public debates. In view of this, it is remarkable that the Club got the annual grant of \$50 last year without any opposition. Really the performance of the Club at the *Conversazione* was a lamentable and humiliating exhibition.

This year when the officers of the Club interviewed Mr. Torrington in reference to his taking the position of conductor, he frankly stated his opinion of last year's performances, and told them that he could not accept the position until he was assured that the Club would undertake some serious work—Cantata, or *conversazione*. In short, if the Club wished to endanger its own reputation, and that of its conductor by repeating last year's performance, he would have nothing to do with it. With these views the Club entirely acquiesced, and the matter was brought before the Literary Society with the hope of getting the promise of pecuniary assistance from that body. The result, as reported in

THE 'VARSITY last week, was that \$350 was granted to the Glee Club, on condition of the Cantata being produced in a creditable and satisfactory manner. There has been considerable grumbling over this large grant, but it is almost superfluous to say that anything Mr. Torrington undertakes always proves a success. I am sure that when the performance at next year's *Conversazione* is completed, there will be no grumbling, but the heartiest congratulation.

The Cantata selected by Mr. Torrington, is Max Bruch's "Frithsjo," a work produced at the Buffalo Saengerfest last year, where Mr. Torrington heard it. He speaks in the highest terms of the excellence of the Cantata, and predicts a great popularity for it in Toronto. The Club has good officers, enthusiastic members, an able conductor, and good music in preparation. With such prospects the Glee Club should be an unqualified success this year.

Mr. Bayley, of the Queen's Own Band, has made a proposition to the authorities of University College, to furnish five Saturday afternoon concerts of chamber music in Convocation Hall. His request has been acceded to, and the Literary Society has given the use of its name as patron. Mr. Bayley will furnish programmes of string quartettes, trios, and vocal music. He will be assisted by Herr Jacobsen, Prof. Haslam, of Norwood College, and another. Tickets for the series of five concerts will be, to undergraduates, \$1.00; for others, \$2.00. It is to be hoped that these concerts will be well patronized, as all the players are good musicians.

Mr. J. F. Thomson, well known in Toronto musical circles, has a project on foot for the giving of several concerts in Convocation Hall during the winter, if he can secure the consent of the College Council. It is to be hoped he will be successful. It will thus be seen from the above review, that musical matters are booming at University College.

HAUT BOY.

A MEMORY.

She leans at the window watching
Where the sky and the sea embrace,
The wind with soft fingers tangling
Her hair over neck and face.

She heeds not the wind nor listens
To the sound of songs from the bay ;
For a white-winged ship in the distance
Flutters and flees away.

"Where are thy secret sepulchres,
With their funeral winds, O sea?
The ships sail in, the ships sail out,
But he never can come to me."

"THESE ARE A FRESHMAN'S QUESTIONS."

—Marlowe, *Faustus*, Act 2

I.

Oh why
Is it that ever thus I grieve and sigh,
Since first I donned
The Freshman's cap and gown? (and, by-the-bye,
Straight unto the photographer
Right soon did hie),
What time, in Autumn's sedgy pools,
The hoarse frog crooned a ditty to his mate,
Mayhaps full wisely did frog-poet prate
Of how the weary moon, for aye
Down gazing on this world of weary fools,
Slow climbs the sky.

II.

As I
Remarked before, I seek in sadness, why,
Why Fresh—er—I

Mean—eh—First Year Men—should be thought small fry?
And why the unfresh undergrads
The fresh should guy?
And what is that outlandish rhyme,
(To me may not this careless taunt be flung,
"Go to! You question with an idle tongue.")
Litoria? Was it the cry
Of Choctaw braves, who, in the olden time,
For scalps did vie?

III.

Let's try
If peradventure Gilead may supply
A soothing balm
To ease a "Freshman's" woes—O Socii,
Comitesque, let's not scowl dark,
Mutter "O Fie,
Fie on't!" like Hamlet i' the play;
But facing all the dangers coming nigh,
Await we bravely, with undaunted hearts,
The Artful Maiden Mistress of the Arts!
Me doth that dread name terrify
To silence; being, but—alas the day!—

A FRESHMAN SHY.

University News.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

The regular meeting of the above Society was held last night, President Teefy presiding. The attendance at the opening was slim, but increased numbers, attracted by the prospect of an election, soon filled the hall to such an extent that the want of proper seating capacity became painfully evident. Mr. H. E. Irwin read the minutes, and then apparently not appreciating the prominence of his position retired. Mr. A. B. Thompson took his place. The essay was read by Mr. W. McBrady. His theme was "Patriotism." This old but never-antiquated subject he treated in an attractive manner. His style was easy, his illustrations well chosen, quotations apt. Patriotism, said the essayist, gains in energy as it narrows in extent. Civilization has not lessened its hold; it has transformed it into a virtue. Love of country has been the main-spring of the finest poems. Christianity has not abolished, it has purified patriotic love. Absence from the Home Land heightens our affection for it. Patriotism is of God; it is divine.

Mr. J. J. Elliott followed the essayist with a reading, based on an incident in the Southern war. It was entitled, "Going up head."

After division followed a lively debate on the subject, "Resolved, that the Supreme Court of Canada should be a final court of appeal."

In the Second and Fourth Year Division, T. B. P. Stewart consented to open the discussion in the absence of the appointed leader. If Mr. Stewart continues to improve as he did while making his maiden speech before the Society, he may reap success in other than poetic fields. He argued that the necessity of appealing to the Privy Council caused only a large and useless expenditure of money in the Licensed Victuallers' case, while in that of the Boundary Award equal satisfaction could have been obtained at home. Already in Canada we have courts affording all necessary facilities for appeals, and certainly we have material to constitute a reliable tribunal. "In fact, gentlemen, there is enough courting in Canada without conducting a privy court across the Atlantic."

J. A. V. Preston resolved the subject into one of independence, and argued against change when the present is good enough. To surrender the court of final appeal to a dependent colony would be directly contrary to the English Constitution. The effect indirectly is to widen the field of the Canadian lawyer by affording the opportunity of appearing at the English Bar, and to render the Canadian Judges careful by the submission of their decisions to the Privy Council. Finally we have a guarantee of unbiassed judgments in the absence of all personal interest among the members of this Council.

The excitement of this speaker tends to give a slightly unnatural

pitch to his voice and an unevenness of delivery. When further practice has removed this Mr. Preston will certainly make a clear and pleasing speaker.

Mr. Talbot followed. He proceeded to the root of the matter, and contended that this idea of carrying our disputes away to the court of the Queen was but a relic of the feudal system. Canadians, like Americans, have overcome the greatest of obstacles to national development, and, like Americans, they can govern themselves to the fullest extent, and find in themselves a full and true fountain of equity and justice. In Mr. Talbot the Society has a concise speaker, replete with ingenuous argument.

J. A. Collins maintained for the negative that we must discuss the question having regard to Canada as it is, a set of divided provinces, with diverse interests, with sects and languages widely different. Hence the clear necessity of a court capable of adjudicating impartially between them, a court which cannot be constituted from among themselves, especially when the selection of occupants of the bench is so greatly in danger of being influenced by party considerations.

At the request of the chairman, Mr. Irwin followed in support of the Supreme Court. He connected the subject of last week's debate with that under discussion, regarding both as leading up to Independence. He found an argument against the carrying of the Caldwell v. McLaren case to the Privy Council in the vast expense entailed by such a course, noted the ignorance displayed by the English Judges in the above cited case, and concluded with a plea for independence.

Responding to numerous calls, Mr. J. G. Holmes spoke. His speech concluding the debate. He expressed his astonishment at the dearth of speakers, on a subject which had been aired from every platform in the country, and worn threadbare in political service. He considered the preceding speaker's allusion to the ignorance of the Privy Council Judges on such a minor question as to what a dam was or was not, as out-of-place. It was not an absolute necessity nor was it reasonable to expect that any judge should be proficient in the details of all subjects, a judge should know law, not facts necessarily. "The Privy Court" concluded the speaker, "is a blessing to Canada and far from the curse that the affirmative would have it supposed to be.

After expressing a very favourable opinion of Mr. McBrady's essay, the Chairman proceeded to sum up and decide the debate. He placed particular stress on the argument "Justice must proceed from the Crown, the Crown is the fountain head of all justice," advanced by the negative, and mainly on account of the strength of it, and the poor way in which the affirmative meet it, gave the debate to the negative.

In the course of his remarks the Chairman expressed a very high opinion of Canadian judges, and testified also to his belief in the wisdom of self-government.

In the other division, presided over by Mr. McKay, the same subject was debated with the same result.

The affirmative was sustained by Messrs. Russell, Hodges and Boulton. Messrs. Ross, Duncan and Jones successfully maintained the negative.

Mr. Hodges has the honor of being the first of this year's Freshman class to speak before the Society, and while we hope that his indisposition to wearing the academical robe is not an indication of a too intensely radical spirit among his class, we are glad to accept his speech, along with those of Messrs. Boulton and Jones, as an augury of the talent existing among the Freshmen.

On re-assembling the standing business of the Society was transacted. The motion to place the Toronto News on file in the reading room was made and defeated. The election of a first year representative on the General Committee was conducted amid considerable excitement, reminding one faintly of a genuine literary society contest. The vote resulted in the election of Mr. R. L. Johnson over his opponent, Mr. T. A. Gibson, by a majority of two.

MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETY.

A large number of the members of the above Society met in Classroom No. 8 on Tuesday evening, the increase in the number being due to the fact that Professor Young had volunteered to read a paper on "Soluble Irreducible Equations of Prime Degrees." Professor Galbraith occupied the chair.

Before proceeding directly upon the subject of the paper, Professor Young demonstrated two or three beautiful laws which had been laid down by German authors, one of which, however, had never been proved before.

The solution of equations of the sixth degree and fifth (except in a very limited number of cases) has hitherto baffled all the masters of analysis. To Professor Young belongs the honour of giving satisfactory solutions of such equations.

Towards the close of his paper he gave his celebrated solution of the fifth degree, establishing the universal criterion as to their solubility.

After being the recipient of a cordial vote of thanks from the Society, Prof. Young retired amid loud applause. His paper is to appear in a few weeks in a prominent American journal.

Mr. T. Mulvey, B.A., then proceeded with some very interesting experiments in acoustics.

Neat solutions of problems were given by Mr. R. A. Thompson.

Problems were also solved by J. E. Martin, S. A. Henderson and J. C. Stuart. Mr. Witton was elected representative for the 1st year.

The meeting then adjourned.

MODERN LANGUAGE CLUB.

The Club met on Tuesday evening in Moss Hall. The President, Mr. Sykes, occupied the chair.

The entire proceedings of the meeting were conducted in French, some of the members showing considerable fluency. Three new members were nominated, after which the elections for the vacant offices took place, resulting as follows:—Vice-President, Mr. T. Rowan; Secretary, Mr. T. Logie; Councillor of the 1st year, Mr. Dales; Treasurer, Mr. Gale; the two latter being elected by acclamation.

Mr. Rowan then read a well-composed essay on Victor Hugo, the style of which was peculiarly French, some of the periods being marked by an electrifying impulse that would not be unworthy of that great *savant* himself.

Mr. Kent gave the principal idioms of *faire* in a short dialogue.

Mr. McPherson read a selection from one of Hugo's poems in a creditable manner.

The discussion of the subject "Is the abolition of text books in French in University College desirable?" was postponed till a future meeting of the Club.

THE NATURAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

The first meeting of the present term was held last Tuesday evening, with a larger attendance than usual.

Routine business was then gone through, including thirteen proposals for membership. The new President, Prof. Ramsay Wright, F.R.M.S., delivered an inaugural address, taking as his subject a hitherto unknown form of sporocyst of a Trematode (allied to the "liver-fluke") which he had recently discovered among some fresh water plants. Mere beginners in the study of the natural sciences were thus impressed with a realization of the possibility of doing valuable original work on materials easily within their reach. In this connection also, the life history of the Trematode was presented in a very attractive and interesting form and illustrated with diagrams.

A short discussion followed, in which one member sought an explanation of one of the profoundest problems affecting the theory of evolution, whilst another, evidently imbued with a profoundly intense love for the festive bivalve, anxiously inquired if he was liable to become the final host of a dire Trematode parasite!

Mr. George Acheson, M.A., tendered his resignation of the office of First Vice-President, which, owing to his multifarious engagements, the Society was bound to accept.

Mr. Acheson has been invaluable as an officer and member of the Society ever since its organization some five years ago, and only those who have been in constant attendance at the Society's meetings can form an adequate appreciation of his services and inspiring enthusiasm in the pursuit of science.

Mr. A. B. McCallum, B.A., Fellow in Biology, was then nominated by Mr. T. P. Hall, B.A., for First Vice-President, and was elected by acclamation.

The next meeting of the Association will take place a week from next Tuesday, and the programme will be announced in next week's 'Varsity as well as on the bulletin board.

Y. M. C. A.

The weekly prayer meeting was held in Moss Hall, on Thursday evening.

The leader, Mr. J. McD. Duncan, conducted the opening devotional exercises and spoke on Nehemiah vi. 4. The enthusiasm of this hero and his followers was dwelt upon as necessary to their success. The same earnest purpose is necessary in the carrying on of our Y. M. C. A.

work. The life and death of Christ were pointed out as the source of inspiration and power. He is all power in heaven and earth. The members of the Y. M. C. A. were urged to earnest work for the Master in the College.

After devotions led by Messrs. McKay and Drummond, Mr. McLeod spoke. He mooted the question of a Y. M. C. A. building in connection with University College. He quoted the authority of President Wilson and others on the feasibility of obtaining such a building. Mr. McLeod also gave briefly a report of the Peterborough Convention. Attention is directed to a full report of this Convention in another column.

The meeting of the Association next week will be addressed by Hon. S. H. Blake, Q.C.

'VARSITY SPORT.

Matters in this direction have been exceedingly dull during the last few days. Practices have been insignificant, and generally there has been a great falling off in the interest which characterized the beginning of the season. But there is no doubt; that with more favourable weather and with the renewed interest which the near approach of important matches brings, things will brighten on both sides of the lawn. The matches of the week have been few and unimportant. They were these:—

'Varsity, vs. Victoria (Association.) Result, one to one.

'Varsity vs. Upper Canada (Rugby), a win for Upper Canada, four points to nothing.

'VARSITY VS. VICTORIA F. B. C.

The Victoria Club made their second appearance on the lawn this season on Saturday last and, as on the former occasion, won the admiration of the lovers of the "Dribbling Game," by an excellent exhibition of Foot Ball. The play throughout was of a superior kind and reflected great credit on both teams. All through the 'Varsity had slightly the better of the play. The result was a draw, each side scoring once. The most noticeable feature in the play of the 'Varsity team was the excellence of the left division of the field, Senkler, Aylen, and Chrystal played and passed magnificently, and the playing of the left half-back, Sliter (?) was exceedingly good. The other side of the field showed a tendency at times to weakness. The defence behind the half-backs was excellent. All that the team requires is a little strengthening on the right to make it perfect. The following were the eleven:—Goal, Garreth; Backs, Jackson and Hogarth; half-backs, Mustard and Sliter; forwards, Aylen, Senkler, Crystal; Sykes, McCulloch and Miller.

'VARSITY VS. UPPER CANADA.

After the handy way in which the 'Varsity defeated the college team on the occasion of their first meeting several weeks ago, the result of the game on Tuesday last was somewhat unexpected. And not only were the supporters of the 'Varsity disappointed in the result but they were also disappointed at the poor form shewn by the team. Generally with three or four exceptions, the 'Varsity team played a careless game; little more can be said of their opponents, for taking the play all through a poorer exhibition of Rugby Foot Ball has seldom if ever been seen on the lawn. The game all through was a series of scrimmages or rather we should say of rough and tumble mauls. The only advantage gained was a touch-down, obtained under rather doubtful circumstances by Upper Canada, toward the end of the last half. Although the touch was right in goal the try was badly missed. During the entire game the 'Varsity showed a lack of interest in the game, their play was loose and half-hearted. At the same time this criticism does not apply to all. Mustard, Back, Senkler quarter-backs, and Elliott, McCulloch and McLean among the forwards played well from first to last; especially may this be said of Senkler whose quarter-back playing and tackling were the redeeming feature of the team's play. The following were the 'Varsity fifteen:—Mustard, back; Macdonald, Scott, and Smith, half-backs; Morrice and Senkler, Quarter-Backs; forwards, McCulloch, Boyd, McLean, Bruce, Silverthorn, Nicholson, Elliott, Cronyn, and McLaren.

THE M'GILL MATCH.

Arrangements are completed for the match with McGill next Saturday. Our team will leave the Union Station by the C. P. R., at 7.55 p. m., arrive in Montreal about 8.30 Saturday morning. Returning they will leave and arrive about the same hours. It is expected that quite a number besides the members of the team will go down. The rate is very low—\$5.00 for return tick-

et. A visit to Montreal is an enjoyable one at any time and under the circumstances it cannot fail to be more than ordinarily interesting.

In respect to the match itself, the somewhat sorry exhibition of last Tuesday weakens to some extent our former high estimation of the strength of the team; but our confidence in the ability of the 'Varsity Club to win still remains. This is pretty much the opinion of Football men in Montreal. McGill is not regarded by them as a strong team and in no way as good a team as that of last year. Already this season they have been severely defeated by both the Montreal and the Britannia Clubs.

The following letter has been handed to us for insertion. We insert it as coming from a prominent member of the Rugby team, and one who is certainly in a position to know whereof he writes. Similar rumors of disaffection among the team generally on account of certain irregularities have reached our ears from time to time; we hope that now the grievances have been so publicly made known, the Committee will see the necessity for their immediate correction.

What the writer says in regard to the necessity for constant practice between now and Saturday next we heartily endorse.

To the Editor of THE 'VARSITY.

SIR:—

I would like to call the attention of all who are interested in the Rugby game, to the very unwonted and desultory manner in which things, so far, appear to have been carried on. I am at a loss to know wherein lies the secret of the non-success of the Team, which, from the very outset gave fair promise of even bettering the very creditable record of last year.

That there is an abundance of material to work on, and that of a superior kind, no one will deny. Yet, judging from recent results, and the few ill-attended practices, something must be very far wrong.

This state of affairs must immediately be checked if the honor and reputation of the 'Varsity Fifteen are to be maintained.

To this end, I would make the following few suggestions:

Elect a permanent captain and abandon the system of choosing one anew for each match.

In choosing a captain (which should be done by ballot) care should be taken that he not only be a good player, but also that he have a thorough knowledge of the game and possess the entire confidence of, at least the majority of the fifteen.

Let the captain, when appointed, see to it that there be no longer existing that painfully evident absence of enthusiasm which has been so noticeable in the few practices that have recently taken place, and which has been the distinctive point of difference between this and the preceding year's team.

Let there be no favoritism shewn in choosing the team, for this would be simply dishonest—and an injustice to the good players who, by virtue of their superior playing, deserve a place on the team.

Lastly, let there be punctual, regular and well-attended practices, with as many practice-matches with other first fifteens as may be deemed advisable; and let every man play for the love of the game, and with the interests of the first fifteen at heart; and not in order to satisfy personal vanity or selfishness, by coveting a place on the team, in which he has no honest right.

On the members of the committee devolves, to a very large extent, the responsibility of the success of the team; and it is to them, no less than to all the members of the club, that those who are interested in the game will look for, and expect to find, that hearty, unbiassed and honest co-operation in this much-needed reform, without which nothing need be expected.

To be a little more specific, we would suggest the names of Messrs. R. G. Macdonald and J. S. McLean as being, in our opinion, the most qualified to fill the position of captain.

"M."

FOOTBALL NOTES.

With one or two changes the Rugby team published above will be the team for Montreal. The Association Club will be represented in Galt at the Tournament on Thanksgiving Day by pretty much the same team as played Saturday last.

Toronto beat 'Varsity 24 to nothing. McGill suffered a precisely similar defeat at the hands of the Montreal Football Club. Montreal and Toronto meet next Thursday. The result of this

match ought to be the foundation for interesting and reasonable conclusion for our fifteen.

The bottom has completely fallen out of the Inter-Collegiate Sports scheme. From the commencement the success of the project has appeared doubtful. It met with the favour of but few in our own College, and as regards McGill it seems there to have received even worse treatment. The interest taken in general athletics in the College, and indeed out of it, generally is small, and appears each year to be growing less.

The Intercollegiate Football Association, to include the Association of Toronto, Victoria, and Queen's Universities, and Knox College, the formation of which has been under consideration for some time past, is likely this season to become an established fact. Negotiations are now pending for the adoption of a constitution embodying the scheme. A trophy is to be procured and annually competed for, alternately at Toronto and Kingston or Cobourg.

The annual meeting of the American Intercollegiate Football Association was held in New York last week. The clubs represented were those of Harvard, Princeton, and Yale Colleges, Columbia having withdrawn. One of the several amendments adopted with regard to the rules of play alters the scoring to the following: Six points to be counted for a goal scored from a touch-down, five points for a goal from a free kick, four points for a touch-down from which no goal is scored, and two points for every safety touch-down made by the opposing side. The increase in the cost of safety touch-downs is considered an important move in advance.

The competition trophy of the Ontario Rugby Union has been procured, and is on view in Ellis and Co.'s window, King street. The trophy is a handsome piece of work. The design is unique, massive, and quite in keeping with the game of which it is an emblem. The front of the pedestal bears the inscription "Ontario Rugby Union Challenge Cup. Established 1883." Surrounding the pedestal is a band of miniature Rugby Rules, on one of which is inscribed "Won in 1883 by the Toronto Football Club." The upper portion of the trophy consists of a large Rugby ball resting in the crotch made by four flags set hurdle-wise, fastened with a wreath of maple leaves, and supported by the grasp of two sturdy figures in football costume.

Q. O. R. NOTES.

The Company paraded for battalion drill at the shed on Wednesday evening. There was a very fair turn-out.

This morning the Company paraded at 8.30 for a field-day with C Company Infantry School at the Fort. A team of ten men from the Company will pull a team from C Company in the afternoon.

On Wednesday evening next the Company will parade in marching order preparatory to inspection by Major-General Middleton on Thanksgiving Day.

Muster roll-call takes place on Wednesday evening. Every man must be on parade or show a doctor's certificate.

The inspection of the Queen's Own Rifles and 10th Royal Grenadiers will take place in the Lacrosse Grounds on Thanksgiving Day.

There has been no lack of good recruits this year.

The rifle match takes place on Saturday next, 8th November.

DI-VARSITIES.

"The fine new iron bridge over the Taddle has been compl——," but we anticipate.

There is one man in the first year who is too busy to read the VARSITY. Some of the present staff would like to change places with this hard-worked individual.

There are five or six gentlemen of the first year who are thinking seriously of clubbing to buy the VARSITY. "Union is strength."

When will Prof. Buckland deliver his first lecture in agriculture?
Ans. B.C. 855.

ROTTEN ROW.

Mr. A. G. F. Lawrence, B.A., has returned from a visit to his ancestral abode.

There will probably be a better attendance at prayers this month, if we may judge from the remarks passed on October's fines.

Mr. Arthur Stevenson, B.A., was in town on Thursday, to enter the Law Society. The Secretary of the Rugby Football Club ought to have seen "Jap," the weather prophet, about the prospects of fine weather on the 8th.

The bones of a former Mufti were resurrected the other night for the benefit of the Freshmen. The interview took place amid the traditional sulphurous smoke and muffled groan.

PERSONAL.

Mr. C. Whetham, B.A., '84, Fellow in the Modern Language Department of University College has recently returned from Germany, where he spent the summer vacation.

Prof. J. Playfair McMurrich, M.A., of the Guelph Agricultural College, is taking a post-graduate course at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore.

H. W. L. Mahood, of the class of '87 is now attending Victoria College,

We regret very much that Mr. W. A. Frost should have taken our little joke in last issue more seriously than was intended. We understand that he has charge of the church news department of the *Globe*, and is pursuing a course in Divinity, at Wycliffe College.

W. P. McKenzie, B.A., '84, is doing mission work at Calgary, N.W.T. until his health is recovered.

Milt. Haight, B.A., '84, Silver Medallist in Mathematics, is at Port Hope.

R. K. Sproule, B.A., '84, is studying law at Brantford.

W. G. Milligan, B.A., '84, is to have a city clerkship in this city.

R. J. Leslie, B.A., '84, is at Goderich.

J. W. Roswell, B.A., '84, is settled on his corner lot in Manitoba. He wanted more room than Ontario could supply.

R. U. McPherson, B.A., '83, is studying law with Ferguson & Ferguson, in the city.

T. C. Robinette, B.A., '84, is with Maclaren, Macdonald, Merritt & Shepley, of this city.

G. Sale, B.A., '84, is preaching.

Mr. A. B. McCallum, B.A., Silver Medallist in Natural Sciences in 1880, has been appointed Fellow in Biology.

Mr. J. L. Davison, B.A., has succeeded in passing the examination for L.R.C.P., recently held in London, England.

SHURMAN—MUNRO—At the residence of the bride's father, No. 15 West Fifty-seventh street, New York, on Wednesday Oct. 1st, by Rev. Dr. John Hall, Dr. J. G. Schurman, professor of metaphysics at Dalhousie College, Halifax, to Barbara F., daughter of Mr. George Munro, publisher, of New York.—*Acadia Athenaeum*.

Mr. H. Montgomery, M.A., '77, B.Sc., examiner in Biology, has taken the position of Professor in the new University at Grand Forks, Dakota.

FATE.

A sunbeam kissed a river-ripple—"Nay,
Naught shall dis sever thee and me!"
In night's wide darkness passed the beam away,
The ripple mingled with the sea.—JOHN VANCE CHENEY.

* * *

Build thee more stately mansions, O my soul,
As the swift seasons roll!
Leave thy low-vaulted past!
Let each new temple nobler than the last,
Shut thee from heaven with a dome more vast,
Till thou at length art free,
Leaving thine outgrown shell by life's unresting sea!

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES,

College News.

KNOX COLLEGE.

Considerable interest is being taken by the students in the First Annual Convention of the Canadian Inter-Collegiate Missionary Alliance, which opened on Thursday evening, Oct. 30, with an address of welcome by Rev. Principal Castle, of McMaster Hall. The meetings will be continued until Sunday evening, and have been, so far, of a most interesting character.

Our freshmen have lately passed with safety a most interesting crisis in their careers as students—nothing less than their formal reception into the confidence of the seniors. The address of welcome was given in excellent style, and the impromptu replies of the juniors were eminently satisfactory. Upon the whole a very pleasant and, we trust, profitable time was spent. We cannot but think an affair of this kind a very superior substitute for the traditional "initiation."

In last weeks notes reference was made to Professor Neff, who is at present giving a series of lectures to the students of this College on the subject of Elocution. The system taught by Professor Neff is for the most part original with himself, and it may be interesting to know something of its main features. The cardinal principle of his system is that *expression* is dependent on *impression*, that is, according as you have the truth (not the words) impressed upon your own mind, so shall you express it. Thus, he claims, that in order to avoid mechanism and to produce a perfectly natural, simple, and spontaneous expression, you must deal entirely with impression. Have every idea in the selection which you are going to read photographed in your own mind, bringing every idea before the mind in the concrete conception. By this means your whole being becomes alive to the significance which the scenes have to you, the sensibilities are aroused, self-consciousness is then lost, and as soon as that is lost freedom of speech must necessarily follow. Your individuality is preserved, and you do not become a mere imitator of others, as is too much the case in most public speaking. He holds that gesture should be taught as a mere gymnastic exercise apart from sentiment. Have the whole body and every member of it well-trained so that when your genius tells you to make a gesture you shall do it, and do it gracefully just in proportion as you have that member trained; neither shall you even think how you did it. The same is true in voice culture; have your voice like a well-tuned instrument, so that when modulation of voice is required, and you feel the importance of what you are saying, your voice will have the rising and falling inflection, and no thought is given as to how it is done. By this means your whole mind is allowed to be set on the living reality of the selection, not upon the gesture nor the words which compose the selection. In delivering your speech no thought should be given for securing words, because by seeing every idea passing before your mind in a panoramic fashion, the significance which these scenes have to you arouses the sensibilities, and the language with which the idea is clothed comes spontaneously. This system has been tested, and in every case found successful. Men who were almost failures, by the old method, in public-speaking, have by this course of training qualified themselves to hold the attention of any audience, and have secured to themselves the title of eloquent men. The method is one that will certainly commend itself to anyone who gives the matter any attention. We wish Professor Neff success in teaching this subject, which we fear is too apt to be neglected among students, and hope that the system now so popular in the States may soon be equally so in Canada.

McMASTER HALL.

The Theological Society held its first regular meeting last Friday evening.

Mr. W. H. Cline, B.A., has recently been married, and has gone to Halifax, N. S. Poor Cline!

The Fyfe Missionary Society held a meeting on Thursday evening to hear the reports of their missionaries during the summer.

On Saturday morning a deputation of students from this college waited on Mr. McMaster's orchard and succeeded in bringing home a bushel or two of apples, which were disposed of in the evening on the historic top-flat.

On Monday afternoon Dr. Smith, author of the American National Anthem, gave a very interesting missionary address in the Chapel. Having visited in person nearly all the Baptist foreign mission fields, he could speak from practical experience of the work done on them. He has recently celebrated his golden wedding.

WYCLIFFE COLLEGE.

The first regular meeting of the Literary Society took place last Wednesday evening. The chair was taken by Mr. R. L. Sloggett, vice-president, in the absence of the President. After the transacting of business, a debate on the following subject took place: "Resolved, that the statement made in the recent Church Congress that the tide of Sunday desecration cannot be stopped is erroneous." On the affirmative were Messrs. Miles and Gaviller, and on the negative Messrs. Sloggett and French. The decision was given in the affirmative.

The students are hoping at no remote date to see the Dean, the Rev. G. M. Wrong, back once more among them. We believe that Mr. Wrong's health is steadily improving, and that before long he will be able to resume his duties in the college.

A good deal of interest has been manifested by the students in the recent Inter-Collegiate Convention. There were no lectures on Friday in order to allow the students to attend the Convention.

TRINITY MEDICAL SCHOOL.

It seems that in the first communication for the year one must necessarily fall into the beaten path of other correspondents who are all happy to meet again, and speak hopefully of the extra success expected from the new year. Trinity opened this year with a success not expected but rather achieved. The dissecting room on the upper flat is a thing of the past, its place being supplied by a new brick building in the rear of the school, which, in the opinion of all, gives us the best dissecting room in the Dominion. In what was the old dissecting room we have now the museum. Our freshmen class this year far exceeds anything before, and we have consequently in its ranks a greater number of rising medical men, *i.e.*, elevated freshmen than ever. There is at present considerable excitement over the coming election of officers for the Annual Dinner, which has always been an event in the year's history, and which will be, according to the speeches of the various nominees, who declared collectively and individually—five of them in the freshman year for 3rd vice alone—that in the event of their being elected they would endeavor to make the dinner a greater success than ever. The nominees for chairman are Messrs. Dewar and Lynch. Feeling is very evenly divided in regard to these. The other nominees are too numerous to mention. We find the 'VARSITY represented by Mr. G. Gordon in the 3rd year, and Messrs. Fère and Nesbitt in the 1st year.

OPINIONS CURRENT AND OTHERWISE.

"THE 'VARSITY has entered upon its fifth year. It retains the old character with, we think, some improvements. First and foremost, the advertisements are more numerous, and the 'sign board' is improved by the dismissal of the ungallant youth and the listless maiden. There is a pleasing tone about the leading article, too; quiet, yet conscious of power, and determined to wield it. We heartily wish THE 'VARSITY prosperity."—*The Toronto World*.

"Until the individual reason and conscience are emancipated, until men cease to accept political dictates without question and without submitting them to the general test of common sense and justice, Party will not cease to be another name for Tyranny."—*Philadelphia Evening Bulletin*.

"Whatever may have been the prospects of the annexation of Canada to the United States a quarter of a century ago, they have materially lessened, it seems to us, under the extraordinary internal development of the past five years; and we now look for a great companion Republic of Canada."—*Boston Literary World*.

"However circumstances may help or hinder us, the intellectual life is always a contest or a discipline, and the art or skill of living intellectually does not so much consist in surrounding ourselves with what is reputed to be advantageous, as in compelling every circumstance and condition of our lives to yield us

some tribute of intellectual benefit and force."—*Philip Gilbert Hamerton in "Intellectual Life."*

"In Canada, as elsewhere, Mr. Irving's Louis XI. is regarded by the most enlightened section of the public as his best performance. It is less generally popular, however, than either Hamlet or Mathias in *The Bells*."—*The Athenaeum.*

"That the English language is a most interesting and inspiring study to any one who has gone through a thorough academic study of language, and that the English literature is all that President Eliot claims for it to the student who has been thoroughly trained in classic analysis and reading, we are foremost to affirm; but that the English language or literature can be made a substitute for either Latin or Greek to an English or a German student as an academic study we do not believe."—*President Noah Porter in the Princeton Review.*

"We confess that the brutal sport of smart young collegians known as "hazing" seems to us almost as disreputable and barbarous as the Spanish pastime of bull-fighting. In the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, a court-martial was recently called to try several cadets accused of hazing. It is stated that a young fourth class man named Strang came to his death a few weeks' ago. There is, unfortunately, ground for supposing that he was fatally hurt in an encounter with the third class by being put in a barrel and rolled around until the hazing party chose to let him out."—*New York Independent.*

"When you find a beach strewed with the shells and other spoils that belonged once to the deep sea you know the tide has been there and that the winds and waves have wrestled over its naked sands. And so, if I find a poem stranded in my soul and have nothing to do but to seize it as a wrecker carries off the treasure he finds cast ashore, I know I have paid at some time for that poem with some inward commotion."—*Oliver Wendell Holmes.*

"I have no patience with people who talk about 'the thoughtlessness of youth' indulgently. I had infinitely rather hear of thoughtless old age and the indulgence due to that. When a man has done his work and nothing can any way be materially altered in his fate, let him forget his toil and jest with his fate if he will, but what excuse can you find for wilfulness of thought at the very time when every crisis of future fortune hangs on your decisions?"—*John Ruskin.*

"The hungry admiration of American would-be aristocrats for Old World patricianism, and the recent concessions of nobility to democracy have filled the world with a rumor of a certain sort of refinement and culture which formerly was supposed to be kept locked in the *boudoirs* and *salons* of hereditary gentry. Along with this rumor came the analytical novel and a considerable impulse towards aping the manners and living conformably to the customs of patrician society."—*Maurice Thompson, in The Current.*

A gentleman came into a concert hall recently, and looked anxiously around for some time. Finally he enquired of one of the occupants of the back seats: "Can you tell me where the reserved seats are?" "Yes," said the other, "where you see no one sitting; those are the reserved seats." The stranger took a back seat.

Correspondence.

ADDINGTON HEARD FROM.

To the Editor of THE 'VARSITY:—

MY DEAR EDITOR,—Put it there—shake,—let me felicitate you. To be editor-in-chief of 'VARSITY is no vain thing. I myself used to be a contributor to the V., and see what I've become! At this very moment I am,—but prose is too impotent:—

Independence is admitted to be agriculture's charm:
How, then, ought my occupation
Be a source of exultation,
Who am hired to the tiller of another yeoman's farm!

Yet, why fret?—why?
While others expiate the curse,
For creature-comfort tussle;
My idle moments making verse,
My busy hours, muscle;
So live I!

Yes, I'm the hired man. His sublimated XXX-ity, the Past Grand Worthy Mufti, Champion Eructor Expectorator of the Residence Wing, used to maintain that, taking it all around, upon the whole the privileges and immunities of the Methodist preacher were sooner to be chosen than those of the hired man. But I am, as yet, only the latter; questionless, it seems, that some bright day I shall evolve into the former.

I have been riding the mower all summer, and reading Hume noon-spells. Last week we got the pumpkins in—uncommon crop,—and the cheese factory will shut down next month. Now, if I have luck getting the winter supply of stove wood split, may be, like the dog that was washed, I can return to my wallowing in residence again after Christmas.

'VARSITY of October 25th wandered down to me to-night:—

"Back to the Universitee,
Old memories call me. "Come:
Help stretch the Freshie" (*Sweet-n-er*)
"Over a barrel"; (*tum bum!*)
Tzing! Boom!!

(*Distant thunder—slow music.*)

They say that the world itself is the best University and experience the true Alma Mater. *Negari non potest quin experientia magistra optima sit*, as old Dr. Arnold's dog-gasted Latin Prose Composition used to put it. But the great risk one runs of being deprived of one's bachelorhood is the main drawback upon the system of private study. I've had some hair-curling escapes, as it were, this summer; now I coax you!

Great Scott (*hic*) Act! Just at the mere remembrance I feel the *Prize-Poem* producing impetus within! Brace yourself,—I'm about "to drop into poetry" again.

Yours truly,
Rogues' Hollow, Oct. 28, 1884.

O. A. N.

THE PRIZE-POEM CRITICISM.

To the Editor of THE 'VARSITY:

DEAR SIR,—An article in your issue of last week criticises the prize poem by Mr. Stewart. Its writer has, I think, looked at the poem from a wrong standpoint. That accounts for his rather low estimate of the piece. It is a critical axiom that a poet should be judged by his best production, and by a parity of reasoning it follows that a poem should be judged by its best parts and not by its errors. Your writer has taken time and trouble to point out some verbal slips which he claims Mr. Stewart has made. Among the few errors he has been able to discover there is not one of any note or importance. They form an almost imperceptible blot on a poem of eighty-five lines. Were they not there the poem would, according to the laws of criticism, be perfect. This your writer has failed to note. He has rested satisfied with pointing out the blemishes; he has neglected to call attention to the remarkable beauties of the piece which far counterbalance its few trifling imperfections. For originality of plan this poem is particularly worthy of praise in an age in which originality is rare. The fresh poetic beauty of many of the lines forms a pleasing contrast to the stilted, constrained style so usual in poems of this class. The sweet calm beauty of his simple style betrays the true poetic instinct of its writer. The exquisitely sensitive choice he has shown in his diction is wonderful in one so young. He has woven his words into a poem whose melody at once thrills and entrances. These are some of

the beauties of Mr. Stewart's poem. These your writer has entirely ignored. They are beauties which, had they not been marred by some few blemishes, would have made the poem a masterpiece. That one so young as Mr. Stewart should have written it heightens our admiration. Among the prize poems which have so far appeared in University College, Mr. Stewart's ranks first. The prize poem which will excel it has yet to come. And he who will write it may call his poem a masterpiece and himself a poet.

B.

THE "BYSTANDER" CHALLENGED.

To the Editor of THE VARSITY:

It is simply not true that, as Bystander alleges in a recent issue of *The Week*, the admission of women to University College was gained by "operating on the weak nerves of a Party Government." When will this man cease from his continual misrepresentations of the various phases of this matter? It is well known that party government is his *bete noir*; he finds in it the source of nearly all the evils of society. But party government had nothing to do with this question, for any person, who knows anything at all about it, knows that when the measure came up for discussion in the Legislature, it received strong support from both sides of the House. And unfortunately for Bystander's dogmatic assertions, the facts of the case really are, that the only definite opposition to the measure came from the Ministerial side, one of the two opponents being actually a member of the Government. This being the case, and I challenge him to disprove what I have said, the Bystander stands convicted either of ignorance of the facts or of dishonesty in his presentation of them. It is no less untrue that the persons through whose exertions this reform was accomplished were actuated by motives of "fatuous gallantry," as the Bystander has been pleased to assert. For the term gallantry denotes a degree of courtesy to women above what is granted to men, and perhaps above what women are in justice entitled to receive. But before there can be courtesy to either men or women, there must first be justice. And it was merely this simple justice which the reformers endeavoured to obtain for women, and which had been denied them previously. Now wherein the "fatuity" of such a desire for even-handed justice consists, it has not been permitted any one but the Bystander to discover.

The Bystander, after stating that Co-education had been introduced into University College by an order of the Government, proceeds with his usual dogmatic inconsistency to the astonishing declaration that "public opinion has never been manifested in favour of Co-education"! This evidently is also untrue, or rather it is essentially an untruth tricked out in the garb of truth. For while it is perhaps the fact that the public have not declared for Co-education absolutely, yet it is undeniably true that the voice of the people, as heard in the Legislature and in general through the press of this province, was overwhelmingly in favour of Co-education under the circumstances.

By the way, whatever does the Bystander mean by talking of a "male university" and a "male course of education"? For any purpose of argument he might as well speak of a "male dinner or breakfast-table" or a "male bill of fare." I conceive that the attribute of sex is not predicable either of intellectual cultivation or of the means of obtaining it. How diligently does this learned gentleman blind himself with words! If he would only "depolarize" his language, as "Oliver Wendell Holmes has it,—if he could for a moment drop the vocables which he handles with such dexterity, and for once come down to consider the simple ideas involved in the case, I fancy that he would feel quite ashamed of the inconsistencies and absurdities of which he has been guilty during this discussion. At least he would have reason to feel so.

Yours, VERITAS.

A FRESHMAN IN THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the VARSITY.

DEAR SIR: Having attended the meetings of the Literary Society, I would like to say what, looking at it from my point of view, I think about the way in which it is carried on. Judging from what I have seen and heard so far, I have come to the unavoidable conclusion that in practice, though not in theory, the lower years have no business there for some time to come, except as listeners. Its aim does not seem to be to encourage free and

open discussion, but to give practice to those able speakers we have among us. But we mortals grow tired of the best things on earth if administered in too large doses. Even Mr. McKay's fluency may grow tiresome, Mr. Holmes' funny ways turn stale, and Mr. Hamilton's quiet and dignified manner become dull. Nothing is then left us but to wait for a couple of years until we should not feel any reticence in displaying our stunted oratory.

A week ago indeed a motion was carried recommending the committee to make every fourth meeting an open one, which means that there would be about four or five during the year. Mr. McKay says that "when we go forth in the world we shall have to stand up bravely and face an audience, and shall not be able to make a few remarks from our seats," which is all very true. But beginners must learn to walk before they run. Let them first learn to make a few intelligent remarks from their seats, and afterwards they will be better able to follow Mr. McKay's plan. It may be urged that it is our own fault if we do not settle down to work at once; but the scant courtesy accorded those of our year is not such as would encourage us to lay ourselves open to unpleasant remarks of the kind which we are commonly greeted, though surely we might be spared them in a society whose very existence depends upon the harmony of its members.

The Society made a great mistake the other evening in not adopting Mr. Holmes' motion respecting open meetings. The only remedy the lower years have is the revival of *The Forum*, or mock parliament, which was such a grand success last year, as long as it lasted, that is, till the adoption of "Mr. Cosgrove's motion." This can work hand in hand with the Literary Society (for the meetings are held on Saturday night), and can develop the fledgling, so that by the time he arrives at the lofty estate of a third or fourth year man he may be ready for active work in the mother Society. For the development of the power of speaking in public in ordinary persons three external conditions are necessary: (1) Unembarrassing circumstances, (2) Familiarity with the subjects under discussion, and (3) a Sympathetic Audience. Those three requisites were most certainly to be found in the Mock Parliament as carried on last year, where only the two lower years took part. Men spoke from their seats, and could speak as long, or rather as short, as they liked; they had very generally an intelligent familiarity with the subject discussed—Politics; and moreover the audience sympathized with their crude attempts. Besides this, there was such extreme interest aroused in the proceedings that men came out for pleasure as much as for the practical benefit.

It is to be hoped that those interested in this matter will at once set to work. The great majority of the first year will join, and the second year, mindful of the success of last year, will turn out in large numbers. There is no reason why this Saturday evening meeting should interfere with the Literary Society, but rather prove a valiant auxiliary to it. As to money matters, the cost of keeping it up, divided among a hundred students, would be about fifty cents apiece for the season.

Hoping that you will excuse my longwindedness.

I remain yours respectfully,

A FRESHMAN SHY.

Books to me indeed are dear,—
I learning lack,—for learning long:
Can these, these shall me, lonesome, cheer,
The power of prose, the sweets of song.

Laughing lassies me delight,
Seductive smiles my soul assail,
Though fools offend,—fair flirts affright,
And oft I, wanton-wounded, wail.

Books will do their best to please;
But lassies won't, or lassies will
As cause each love-igniter sees,—
Or choice to charm, or chance to chill:

Volumes vainly lure your looks
While so sweet virgins make you yearn;—
Abandon, learning-lover, books,
And love of lovely lassies learn.

O. A. N.

Our Wallet.

When Vassar girls want to swear they say "buy gum."—*Ex.*

* * *

"What shall I write about?" asked a young reporter of the editor. "Oh, write about a column and a half," replied the editor.

* * *

"I haven't had a bite for two days," pleaded a tramp. "Is it possible?" answered the woman, with sympathy. "I'll see what I can do for you. Here Tiger, Tiger." The tramp broke a \$2 gate getting away.—*Ex.*

* * *

"Ah, Mr. Hobbleton, I hear that you have been called to the ministry." "Well, I can hardly term it a call. They only offer me \$500 a year. Sort of a whisper, you understand."—*Arkansas Traveller.*

* * *

The way of the transgressor—the trunk line to Canada.—*Ex.*

* * *

The following legend is written in a Leadville church: "Please don't shoot the organist, he is doing the best he can."—*Ex.*

* * *

"Dying in poverty," mused a needy student, "is nothing; it is living in poverty that is hard on a fellow."—*Ex.*

* * *

Professor: "What can you say of the second law of thought?"
Student: "It cannot both be and not be. For example, the door over there must be either open or shut; it cannot be both shut and open." Professor: "Give another illustration." Student: "Well, take the case of another door."—*Ex.*

* * *

Professor: "Gentlemen will please close their books." Ob-
serving that his polite command is not being obeyed he adds:
"Those who are not gentlemen will please close their books!"
—*Ex.*

* * *

A miss is as good as a mile,
A kiss is as good as a smile,
But an ace and four kings
Are the beautiful things
That are good for the other man's pile.—*Ex.*

* * *

× COLLEGE LIFE.

Dawning hope;
Downy chin,
Freshman mild
Meanders in.

Next year: scorn;
Proud disdain;
Sophomore:
Collar; cane.

Junior see
Him next year;

Smoketh pipe;
Drinketh beer.

Battered cap;
Gown in rags;
B.A. to his
Name he tags.

RESUME.

Freshman; Soph'more;
Taddle: pluck!
Junior; Senior;
Swans-down; Luck!—

ERIC.

* * *

A druggist, dependent largely for his support on the patronage of Yale students, advertises as follows: "Arnica, sticking-plaster, splints, bandages, and other baseball goods."—*Harvard Crimson.*

* * *

The birdlet on the treeing
Now carols forth its notelet,
The boy that hath no feeling
Ties tin cans to the goatlet.

What then! the spring is here,
In palace and in hutlet;
The goat doth get upon his ear,
And gives that boy a butlet.—*Crimson.*

'Varsity Publishing Co.

The following is the report of Mr. Edgar, Treasurer of the 'Varsity for '83-'84:—

To the Directors and Shareholders of THE 'Varsity Printing and Publishing Co.

GENTLEMEN:—

In presenting the Company with the Fourth Annual statement of its affairs, the Treasurer begs to congratulate them upon the satisfactory footing upon which the paper now stands.

While last year the receipts exceeded the disbursements, still the assets did not quite equal the liability to the stockholders; however this year, despite the great reduction of our advertising rates, we are able to show for the first time in the history of the 'Varsity a statement of Assets over and above the Liabilities, with a balance of \$24.41.

The following figures will roughly explain what has just been stated.

Last year's subscription list was worth \$680.50, while that of this year, owing partly to the spread of our circulation, and partly to the slight increase in our subscription rates, we value at \$832.50; thus showing an increase of \$152.00 in our main source of revenue. To more than counterbalance this gain I have to record a considerable fall in our income from advertisements, which is to be accounted for as follows:—It was thought at the beginning of the year that we would have been unable to obtain a number of our former advertisers at the old rate, so it was decided to lower the price to exactly one-half of what it had been. It was then supposed that we would make enough out of our increase in subscriptions, and possibly in the number of our advertisements, to clear what we lost in the reduction of our rates. Though a big push was made we didn't quite make up the difference through that source. The advertising of '82-'83 amounted to \$480.75, and of '83-'84 only to \$284.70, a fall of \$196.05, against which is to be put only the \$152.00 above mentioned.

We must look for the true cause of our gain to really what is the most important subject for our consideration, the cost of carrying on the undertaking. The actual disbursements for '82-'83 amounted to \$1149.16, while for '83-'84 this amount has been reduced to \$1042.95, or \$106.21 has been saved on the actual expenses attending the running of the paper. The printing, which last year amounted to \$1015.21, has this year only cost \$922.05, or \$93.16 less. The postage on papers addressed within the City,

became a little more expensive on account of the increase in our circulation, and office expenses again were much lower.

It will be observed in the Balance-sheet that there are still a large number of subscriptions in arrears. This chiefly arises from the fact of our circulation having extended so greatly throughout the Province, and although circulars have been sent at different times, your Treasurer has found it difficult to impress upon the more distant subscribers the necessity of honouring us in a more substantial way than in merely accepting the paper. However, since the books have been closed for the year, a large number of arrears have been received.

There is no reason why the experience of the past should not teach the officers of the future many lessons in the management of the paper. If the expenses are kept down and the subscribers more urgently requested to pay, there will be no cause for anxiety or fear for the increasing success of the 'Varsity.

J. F. EDGAR, Treasurer.

REV. DR. WILD,

Bond Street Church.

Subject for Sunday Evening, Novemberr 2nd:

"CANADA AND THANKSGIVING."

NOTICES.

The 'Varsity is published in the University of Toronto every Saturday during the Academic Year, October to May, inclusive.

The Annual Subscription, including postage, is \$2.00, payable before the end of January, and may be forwarded to THE TREASURER, F. W. HILL, University College, to whom applications respecting advertisements should likewise be made.

Subscribers are requested to immediately notify the Treasurer, in writing, of any irregularity in delivery.

Copies of the 'Varsity may be obtained every Saturday of J. S. ROBERTSON & BROS., corner of Adelaide and Toronto Streets.

All communications should be addressed to THE EDITOR, University College, Toronto, and must be in on Thursday of each week.

Rejected communications will not be returned, to which rule no exception can be made. The name of the WRITER must always accompany a communication.

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Base imitations of this brand have been put on sale, and Cigarette smokers are cautioned that this is the Old Original brand, and to observe that each package or box of **RICHMOND STRAIGHT CUT CIGARETTES** bears the signature of

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