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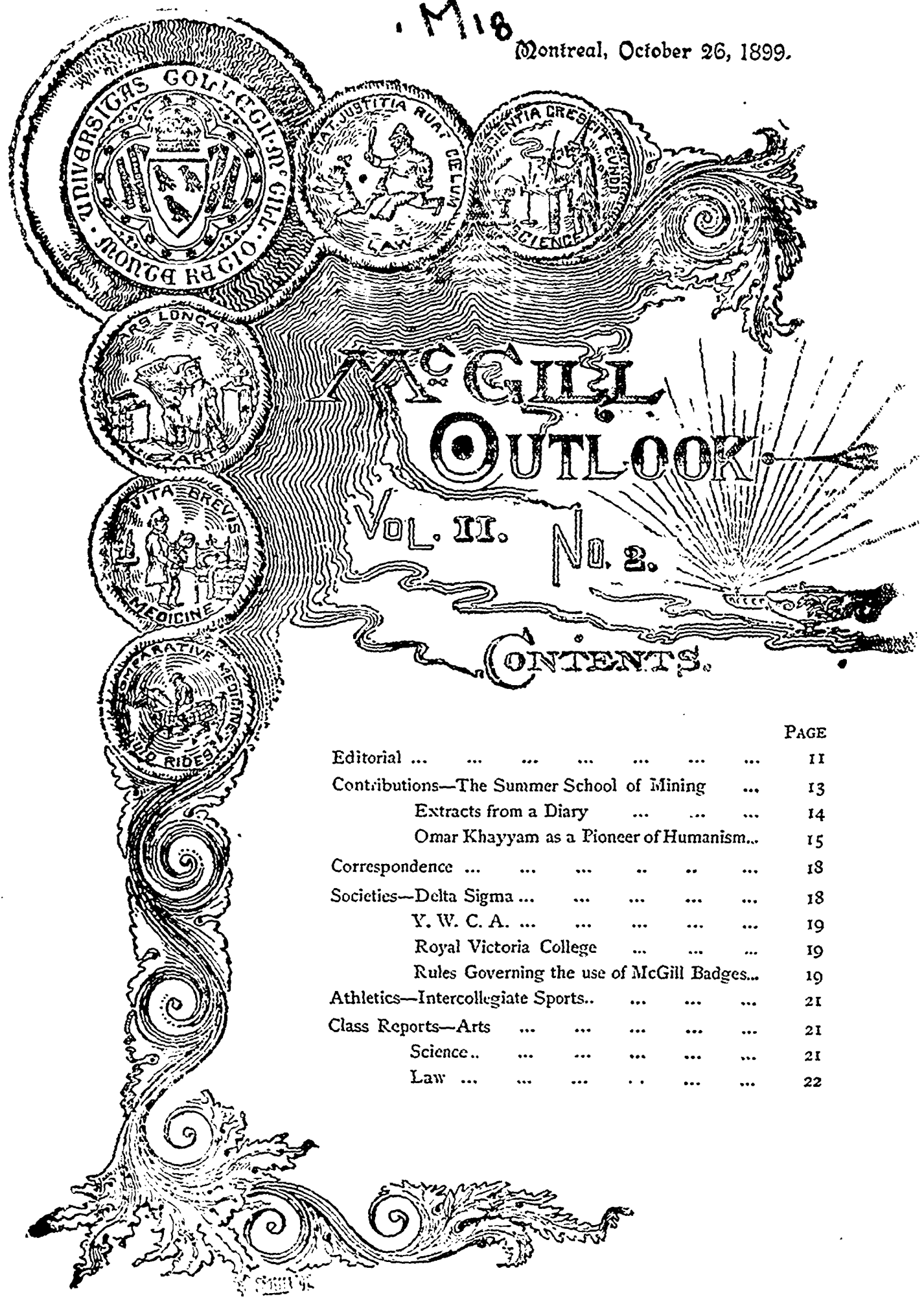
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Montreal, October 26, 1899.



McGILL OUTLOOK

VOL. II. No. 2.

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McGILL OUTLOOK

VOL. II.

MONTREAL, OCTOBER 26, 1899.

No. 2

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Editorial.

WE are pleased to learn that the question of having a University Dinner this year is being discussed by the students of the various faculties. It is now four years since this function has been celebrated at McGill, and if the custom is not revived during the present session, many students will have finished their course without having had an opportunity of attending one of these events. The dinner of 1896 was an unqualified success, and had a most important influence in bringing the different faculties into closer union. Indeed we might almost say that this function marked the beginning of the good feeling which has gradually been gaining ground among the students of the different departments, for previous to that time the relations which existed between medicine on the one hand and the remainder of the University on the other were, to say the least, rather strained. It is to be hoped that the Governors and Pro-

fessors will interest themselves in the matter, for without their co-operation it would be almost useless for the students to attempt the project.

The committee which managed the event of 1896 was composed of the following gentlemen:—

President.....C. J. Fleet, B.A.

Secretary.....Prof. McLeod.

Treasurer.....Dr. Adams.

These were assisted by five representatives respectively from the professional staff and from the undergraduate body.

THE Intercollegiate sports on Saturday proved conclusively that, at the present time at least, McGill can turn out a stronger track team than any other Canadian University. Victory has been an unknown quantity at McGill for some time, and the men who last Saturday upheld the crimson and

white colors have reason to be proud of their work. The competitors from Toronto and Queen's Universities fought manfully to the last, but they were up against better men, especially in the sprint races, and gracefully accepted defeat. Doubtless on the athletic side no little good will come of the meet, and we believe it will do much to help lift up to a higher standard honest amateur sport in Canada. On the side of friendship the meeting has certainly strengthened the good feeling hitherto existing among the Universities concerned. There was plenty of good feeling at the games, and a spirit of friendship and cordiality among the representatives of the three competing Colleges was at all times manifest. On this feature of the games we can speak with satisfaction. But the sports also proved another fact, that the men who do the work and the fighting for McGill in the athletic arena receive little support from the student body as a whole. It should be remembered that these men are not competing wholly for themselves, but for their University, and are doing so at no little self-sacrifice and self-denial. They certainly deserve more encouragement than they received on Saturday, less than a hundred students being present at the games. This is to be regretted in a University like McGill. We do not know where the fault lies, but we believe it is with the students themselves. For the present we will refrain from dwelling on this question for we believe that similar questions have been *talked about* long enough and must be remedied by some other weapon than criticism. Lack of College spirit in McGill is admitted by all, and the students who claim McGill as their *Alma Mater* should rise to the importance of doing something to put down the evil. Indifference and inaction in the matter of athletics should cease at once, and not until our competing teams in all branches of sport receive the united support of the students they represent, can they be expected to bring honor and glory to their University.

THE Ireland-Montreal game last week was indeed a revelation. At last we have seen a game characterized by that long sought treat—open play. The ball was never lost sight of, the formations were prompt and rapid, the play was continuous, and the spectators' interest never flagged. Instead of that impatient feeling we have so long cultivated while waiting for the untangling of eight or ten pairs of limbs following upon a "held" ball; instead of a melee in the scrimmage during which the ball is lost to view to spectators and referee, the play in this game was so open and rapid, one dared not turn to his neighbor to curse the referee or the umpire lest something momentous should happen in the interval. Last but not least there was no scrapping with one exception. That exception may be put down to the force of habit and thus forgiven. If a game like this can be played without any loss of temper on the part of fifteen genuine Irishmen, it has a recommendation which should carry great weight in altering the present rules—or the execution of them—of our Canadian game. When that is done, we shall see football played in such manner, that we shall be satisfied that the name of the game is not a misnomer.

COLLEGEMEN throughout Canada will hear with regret of the intended resignation of Dr. Parkin, the well-known head master of Upper Canada College, Toronto. Dr. Parkin, who was appointed to his present position in 1895, has performed his duties in such a manner as not only to reflect the greatest credit on himself, but to greatly increase the prestige of U. C. C. Despite the fact that since his appointment the able principal has received little outside assistance—the College having received only \$15,000 since 1895—the membership has almost doubled under his able administration, and the affairs of the institution are in a more prosperous condition than ever before. To give an idea of the insignificance

of the amount received, we may state that in the same period the sum of \$2,500,000 has been bequeathed to McGill. Little wonder, then, that Dr. Parkin is discouraged with the lack of interest and generosity on the part of the Toronto public.

A UNIVERSITY BATTALION.

PERIODICALLY there breaks forth in the ranks of the more enthusiastic McGill men a passion for military service. For some years past, within the memory of most of the present day students there have appeared from time to time in the *College* and the *Montreal* daily papers lengthy articles as to the advisability of a University rifle corps being organized in Montreal.

The scheme has seldom, if ever, gone beyond its initial stage. While born amid much noise and apparent enthusiasm, its life is very very brief and its death a quiet and evidently an unregretted one. The appearance of this outbreak of military ardor in McGill is about due now. It should have been hastened on, no doubt, by Britain's troubles with the Transvaal, and the loyal support which has been given the Mother country by all her colonies.

This project of a University battalion in Montreal is a curious one and shrouded with

certain mystery. No one seems quite to understand where it originates each time. It is well supported, and the advantages that would accrue are ably put forth. Certainly the idea (in a modified form) is one to be encouraged and not slated. It is, in fact, worthy of much more thoughtful and tactful treatment than has been accorded to it in certain quarters in the past. But it must ever seem in its present state impracticable to the last degree. At any rate this has been the conclusion of some old and tried militia officers in Montreal, who combine with a pretty sensible view of college life and matters, an experience of many years in the militia conditions of this city.

One of these gentlemen, a medical officer, commended, some time since, the idea of McGill students participating in local militia affairs, but spoke very strongly against such a scheme as a McGill University corps. He suggested, very wisely, that a University company attached to one of the already existing corps was very much more practical.

There is no reason why this should not be taken up and made a success. If necessary it could be made the stepping stone to the more elaborate "McGill University rifle corps"—that fond hope of some, few unfortunately, but still some of our military minded students.

Contributions.

THE SUMMER SCHOOL OF MINING.

(Continued.)

When at length we reached the Exchange Hotel and had duly registered and been welcomed by mine host, who it appears was a colonel in the Southern Army, we sauntered out to obtain some sort of refreshment. Unfortunately at this point a division took place in the party that was destined to become more marked as time progressed. The boys had assembled on the piazza of the hotel to decide where to go for their late supper at the time described by Shakespeare as

"The very witching hour of night when church-yards yawn,
And hell itself breathes forth contagion to this world."

No decision was unfortunately unanimously

reached, for after a discussion, as hot as the very breath of Hades itself, the party dispersed in two groups, one called the Pop Drinkers going to the nearest ice cream saloon and ginger ale counter, to sip Hobson lemonade and smack their lips in silent contemplation over a fat dish of Dewey (pronounced Dooey) ice cream.

The other crowd, called derisively by the blue ribbon men the Beer Gang, in the meanwhile meandered off in the direction of a restaurant, whose proprietor was licensed by Uncle Sam to sell to his patrons Scotch and High Balls, Mint Juleps, Cocktails galore, besides many other fancy American drinks, while his guests did justice to the good things provided for on the menu card. The menu card by the way is a most interesting feature of American hotel life. A hostelry with any pretensions whatever always has a menu card in French but woe betide the unfortunate guest who dares to

pronounce it as French; if he presume so much he will at once be corrected by the waiter or waitress as the case may be, who will say "Oh you mean—" naming the desired dish, pronouncing the word exactly as it is spelt, and with a strong nasal twang as we'll. Mr. Corriveau was thus reprimanded several times for not pronouncing his native tongue with the correct American accent, to which he good naturedly submitted.

However, we came over the line to discuss mines and metallurgy, not menus and manners, leaving out of the question maidens, accordingly we were not surprised when we were informed by Dr. Porter, the professor in charge, that we would be expected to be ready for an expedition to the Maltby mine by 8 o'clock the following morning.

Tuesday found us at the appointed hour all rigged out in our overalls, smocks and miners' caps, ready to board the electric car which passes within a few minutes' walk of the Maltby Colliery, about four miles out of Wilkes Barre. This mine we reached after a half hour's spin through a pleasant country, and we were all introduced by Dr. Porter to Mr. Conners and Mr. Humphries, the former being the Superintendent of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co.'s properties, while the latter is the engineer in charge. To both the gentlemen we, as a class, owe much for their painstaking efforts in our behalf, they thinking nothing of sacrificing days of their valuable time in showing us over and explaining everything in connection with the magnificent machinery of their extensive properties. After a few minutes' conversation we commenced to view and examine the surface machinery, beginning with the hoisting gear, etc. Here were several huge cone-shaped drums, some eight feet in diameter, operating the cages, which each carry a car with a capacity of about two tons, and which were brought to the surface, a perpendicular distance of two hundred and fifty feet, in a marvellously quick manner. The power generally employed is steam, which is conveyed considerable distances from the source of generation, four thousand feet being considered the limit, beyond which electricity is used. In this particular mine, winding machinery situated six thousand feet away from the power house is worked by day, while electricity from the same dynamo operates an electric pump by night.

In the afternoon, having finished a hurried lunch, we descended the main shaft in one of the cages; this was an experience not readily to be forgotten. Three seconds after the signal is given you suddenly sink with four times the velocity of a Chicago elevator out of sunlight into a cold clammy darkness the sensation being described by our guide, an old fire boss, with more truth than politeness as "a kinder feelin' as if yer 'ad left yer stomach behind."

When we reached the lowest level we got off the cage and beheld a scene of marvellous activity, which is not to be wondered at when we consider that this mine elevates from one thousand to fifteen hundred tons per day. We walked some five or six miles underground, noting the general lay of the mine and the system of ventilation, besides seeing some very perfect fossils of sigillaria and lepidodendra. Having employed most of the afternoon thus, we were

quite ready when the time for going to the surface arrived, and hurried back to Wilkes Barre, and all had a much needed bath, donning our best in anticipation of the ball to be given that night by the Hebrew ladies of the town.

G. M. C.

(To be continued.)

EXTRACTS FROM A DIARY.

I.

GRAND CANARY.

This morning I awoke feeling the proximity of land. At three o'clock we anchored in the harbor of Las Palmas. My fellow traveller and myself having put ourselves into land garb and presentable order, took a row-boat from the ship and soon had the satisfaction of walking upon terra firma, though it required considerable co-ordination after a week at sea and a couple of days about the Bay of Biscay. Once on land, we chose one of the many gigs or rigs, or whatever the natives call them, that were backed up to the wharf, waiting to do business with the English tourists. The vehicle was a mixture of dog-cart and jaunting car, with some local ingredients. The horse (if liberty may be taken with the term) was an animal a little larger than a man's hand. We gazed at him doubtfully before stepping up, but afterwards found he was equal to the occasion. We were soon jogging along the quaint old road leading to the town, and must have covered two miles before entering the town proper. In the meantime there was much to interest an American eye. The palm trees were one of the most striking features, but they scarcely outnumbered the grog shops. The plain, bare Spanish buildings, standing up close to the narrow street, appeared to be chiefly tenanted by drink-vendors, and the leading industry seemed to be grog-selling. Many soldiers—another liberal use of terms—were strolling and lounging about, for the Hispano-American war had put the people into a semi-belligerent condition. The mantilla-capped women were in great abundance, lounging about corners, sitting in windows or walking the pavements.

At length we reached the town proper, with its tangle of narrow streets and barren architecture. Shops, restaurants, hotels and cafés in equal numbers comprised the business portion of Las Palmas. Often we saw English people, who were probably there health-seeking, for the climate is most salubrious. But the majority of the people were slouchy, sallow, cigarette-jaded Spaniards, all apparently in the condition of a chronic jaundice. In the residential streets, which were hard to recognize as such, every window contained two or more curious female faces bedaubed with powder and perspiration. Here and there we met a donkey surmounted by a Spaniard amidships, and a huge bundle of maize or bananas fore and aft, port and starboard. The head and tail of the donkey were the only anatomical signs of its species.

Presently we stopped at the Cathedral, and entering we found many priests and choir boys intoning in stentorian voice a prayer to the Almighty that the Spanish nation should triumph over its enemies, and

that confusion upon the banners of their foes might wait. Then the boys went forth among the altars and swung about them multi-colored lights of incense, and the priests came out, and they all formed one grand procession and marched toward the choir, their deep-pitched voices mingling with a powerful organ to send up their weird supplications to Heaven.

Leaving the Cathedral, and deeply impressed, we were soon whirling towards the outskirts of the city. Here our eyes met enormous banana plantations, indented with palms and prickly pear—a strange sight to a Canadian. Here one saw the huge bunch of bananas attached by Nature to its plant, not hanging from a dago's shop window. As one drove along, he looked for residences in the American sense, but everywhere the eye met the plain, low, bare, cold architecture of colonial Spain.

Giving orders to return, we passed the hospital, which from the exterior might better be named a prison. Then we proceeded in another direction upward toward the "Ba. r. ncu Seca," by the "Camino de Monte," and eventually reached the top of the great hill which forms the background of a view of the city from the harbor. Here we could see hundreds of laborers engaged upon the fortifications and preparing for an attack upon the Canaries. One guide told us that there were fifteen thousand soldiers in the city, while another informed us that the number was thirty thousand. Had they thought we were Yankees they would have undoubtedly doubled the number again.

Coursing down this hill the same view greeted us; large banana plantations, immense stretches of sand hills and dales, everywhere the palm tree and prickly pear, everywhere the low white plain houses with their central court-yard. We passed another gig containing two typical American tourists. Our driver on sighting them suddenly ceased his explanatory jabbering, threw off the roll of guide and became a very very angry Spaniard, hurling his most contemptuous epithets at the receding Americans, coupled with "Bah! Bah! Americanos! Americanos!" the cry being taken up by the by-standers. However, the driver of the Americans' gig took good care of his passengers, because American gold aroused a far deeper emotion in his breast than did his own dear native land.

Returning to the city we visited the market, where the ubiquitous mantilla-cloaked woman sells her bananas, lemons, peaches, grapes and souvenir merchandise. Strolling about the market-place we passed the theatre, and proceeded to a restaurant, where we fell to and partook of an oily Spanish dinner. According to time-honoured custom we had to kick on the bill, which was forthwith reduced fifty per cent. by ten per cent. degrees.

A few doors from here was the office of the agents of our steamship, where we enquired about the time of departure. Much to our chagrin we were informed that our boat was liable to leave at any moment, that the papers were aboard, and that we must make all speed to the ship—some two miles away by road and another half-mile by row boat. Frightened beyond measure by this announcement, as darkness fell about us, we jumped into a gig and told the driver to go as he never went before, promising him, double

fare if he reached our ship in time. Away we went. At the end of a good fast mile our horse came to a dead-stop. Not an inch *would* he move. Not an inch *could* he move. Poor little fellow! He had just had his supper and the fast mile had set up an acute gastritis. After five minutes we got another start, but we had two more gastric crises before we reached the docks. We paid our driver strictly per tariff and made a dash for a row boat through a dark and dismal lane. For once in our lives we felt that we were at the tender mercies of the treacherous Spaniard, but we found a weak old man and a small boy who were ready to row us to the ship at double fare. We almost jumped down their throats with gratitude, and after a long pull we saw our good ship looming up in the darkness. We offered a silent prayer of thanks as we stepped upon the ship's ladder.

Much to our surprise we found the ship was not to sail until morning. The steward then explained all. He informed us that it was the custom of steamship agents at Las Palmas to thus frighten their passengers in order that the British Consul may avoid the necessity of getting British subjects out of gaol after partaking of Las Palmas refreshments.

However, we were glad to know that we could enjoy the privilege of standing by our luggage and escape putting up another roll of passage money. We slept deeply that night and awoke the next morning upon the sea en route to South America.

OMAR KHAYYAM, AS A PIONEER OF HUMANISM.

No question has been more often asked or more variously answered in the many ages which have elapsed since man first became conscious of his existence, than the why and wherefore of his being. The manner in which this question has been answered, or in which men have attempted to answer it, has been fraught with the greatest results in the course of human history. Many of the greatest institutions the race has been or is subject to, are the embodiments, so to speak, of the answer to this question reached by some master minds.

The conclusion reached by Zeno and his school regarding the object of human existence has exerted a most potent influence in history. Inspired, or rather steeled by the teaching of the Stoics, many of the leaders of the ancient world dispensed justice, punished crime and taught fortitude in such a manner as to benefit their entire race.

The influence of the opposite school of Epicurus has been equally, if not more cogent, in shaping the destinies of nations. Was it not to this, more than any other single cause, that the fall of the Roman Empire was due? It was the lack of moral stamina caused by the prevalence of Epicurean doctrines which rendered the Roman people effete, and utterly unable to cope with the more sturdy workmen, reared in the school of hardship and exposure.

St. Augustine, St. Benedict, and other great minds of the middle age, were confronted by this question, and on the strength of their answer was reared the mighty fabric of monasticism, with its millions of upholders.

Another answer to this old question thrilled the world in the fourteenth, fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries, awaking men from the lethargy into which they had fallen owing to monastic doctrines. From that time to the present day the influence of humanism has spread, and monastic ideas have been more and more dissipated. It is to this fact above any other that modern civilization owes its rise and advancement. It is to the conception of life formed by such men as Erasmus, and communicated by them to a world ready for the revelation, that we owe our present position. So long as the world lay under the deadening influence of a false theology, and gave her conscience and freedom into the keeping of a few men with diseased social ideas, the advancement of the human race was impossible. So long as men considered life only as a time to prepare for death, and regarded the ideal life to be one spent in a continued round of prayers and penances, within the precincts of a monastery, what advance was possible? But when a few men, assured of the truth of their convictions, had courage enough to cry out against this inhuman life, and proclaim the new gospel of liberty and humanity, there was a mighty shaking amid the dry bones of centuries, and out of the past arose the form of modern civilization. As the new ideas seized on men's minds, and they began to see that, after all, this life was to be regarded as well as that to come, they began to look about them upon the world in which they had been placed, and to seek to better their conditions. From the time of that awakening to the present, the race has advanced with strides.

It seems difficult for us to realize how men could hold the views they did in the early centuries. We have come to regard the human view of life so much as a matter of common sense. But it was not so with our ancestors.

Yet amid the darkness of superstition and mental slavery which then reigned, we at times catch an uncertain flicker coming from the writing or teaching of some man who has had a glimpse of the truth. But his light has shed its radiance only in a small community, while the great mass of mankind has continued to love the darkness rather than the light. It was such men, nevertheless, who were the precursors of the great teachers and reformers of the Renaissance and Reformation. They were the first rays of that sun which was to rise to all its mid-day splendour over Europe and the world in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. It is of one of these pioneers of humanism, a man born seemingly out of his time, that this paper hopes to treat—Omar Khayyam, of Naisapur.

Very little is known of the life of this Persian poet-philosopher. The year of his birth is uncertain, but was likely in the latter half of the 11th century. Early in life he formed a firm friendship with two of his fellow-students at the College of Naisapur, Nizam-ul-Merik and Hasan ibn Saubih. The three agreed that whoever first gained a position of power should aid his less favored companions. The good fortune fell on Nizam, who became vizier to Alp Arslan. Some time after his appointment he remembered the promise of his early years, and raised Hasan to the position of chamberlain, offering Omar

a similar appointment. But court life had few attractions to a man of Omar's temperament, and he let his opportunity pass on the promise of an annual stipend. He was now in a position to devote all his time to study and research. Ere long he became one of the first mathematicians and astronomers of his age, and undertook weighty calculations for the Persian Court. But his time was not taken up by mathematics alone. In the quiet life he spent in retirement he directed his mind to the great question of life, and to his reflections on this problem is due his great work, the *Rubaiyat*.

Omar as he stands revealed to us in the lines of his poem is an agnostic of the agnostics, in the ordinary use of the term. He was the antagonist of all hypocrisy and religious asceticism. The mystic doctrines of his fellow-countrymen found no reception in him, by the bitterest opposition. So keenly did he contend against them that he has been called the Voltaire of the East, and aptly, for in many ways the two men are similar. Both were intense haters of all hypocrisy and mysticism, and the same spirit of human sympathy which was so strong in the saviour of the Calas was also present in Omar Khayyam. But in literary merit the two are scarcely to be compared. Voltaire was a wit, and his writings are often low and revolting. Omar was a poet with the imagination and fire of a true master of the art.

I like to think of this Eastern poet with our own Chaucer, though we have no evidence that Chaucer was so extreme. Both were poets of this world. Both were scholars. Both were ardent lovers of nature. We can well imagine the early English poet, tired with the week's labours, turning away from the noise and confinement of London, and amid the shady lanes and flower-dotted fields of his native country, seeking refreshment and strength from contemplating the works of nature. Singing birds, babbling brooks, murmuring breezes, all are borne in the strains of his matchless verse, and have an effect on the reader, tired of the obtruse thought of philosophical poets, similar to that which the sight of a wild-rose has on one whose life since childhood has been spent in a great city, and who has almost forgotten that there are such things as green fields and blooming flowers. It is this "vernal" freshness which struck Mr. Lowell so forcibly, as he states, in his essay on Chaucer.

Such a man, we have cause to believe was Omar Khayyam, though his disposition may have been less sunny than Chaucer's. To both men this world was something. They could not conceive that man had been placed amid the beauties of nature and yet was not to enjoy them. They would not believe that to love nature about and within them was a cardinal sin, meriting the judgment of God. Each worshipped his Creator through the sights and sounds of nature.

As we can picture Chaucer walking in the fields of Middlesex, so likewise, by a change of landscape, may we picture Omar Khayyam:

"Lover of song, and sun, and summer tide,
For whom so many roses bloomed and died;
Tender interpreter, most sadly wise,
Of earth's dumb, inarticulated cries!

Time's self cannot estrange us, nor divide ;
Thy hand still beckons from the garden-side
Through green vine-garlands, when the winter dies."

This love of nature is seen in one of the few recorded sentences of Omar's conversation. One of his pupils, Kwajah Nizami, says Mirkland, relates the following: "I often used to hold conversations with my teacher, Omar Khayyam, and one day he said to me, 'My tomb shall be in a spot where the north wind may scatter roses over it.' Even in death he wished to have the flowers he loved near him."

Such is the man Omar Khayyam as we see him portrayed in his works, and the sparse testimony borne him by others.

His great work, as has been already stated, is the "Rubaiyat" or "Sayings." It is a collection of the poet's reflections on the great problems of existence, written in quatrains, of which the first, third and fourth lines rhyme. This was a favourite mode for the expression of rude thought among the Eastern poets and sages.

This paper will not admit of a due notice of the man to whose translation the modern world owes its knowledge of Omar Khayyam, but feel in duty bound to say a word regarding him.

Few more interesting characters are found in the literary history of the century than Edward Fitzgerald, the friend of Tennyson, Thackeray and Crabbe. Born at Bredfield House, Suffolk, in 1809, of wealthy parents; educated at the school of Bury St. Edmunds, and later at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he entered into life-long friendship with Thackeray and Kemble, the early life of Fitzgerald was a pleasant one. He had a sunny temperament and was generous to a fault, which qualifications made him popular with those who knew him.

After graduation he gave himself to the enjoyment of life, which he found in a most harmless way, in travelling and literary work. He was a particular friend of Crabbe and spent much time at his home. All who have left record of him speak of him as a witty, genial companion, and acknowledge his great erudition. He was very eccentric, and on one occasion is reported to have said of his family, "we are all mad, but with this difference—I know that I am." To this man we owe our knowledge of the "Rubaiyat." The teaching of Omar struck a responsive chord in his heart. "Poor fellow," he once wrote to Prof. Cowell, "I think of him and Oliver Brasselin, and Anacreon; lighter shadows among the shades, perhaps, over which Lucretius presides so grimly."

Fitzgerald's translation is one of the ablest productions of its kind which has ever been written, and does full justice to the beauty of the "Rubaiyat."

With this brief notice of its translator, let us pass on to a consideration of the Rubaiyat themselves.

The aim of Omar, it seems, is to utter a protest against the strict orthodox life of the mass of men among whom he lived. The restraints of Islam, Zoroaster, and the teaching of other Eastern sages and prophets, chafes him, and against them he raises his voice. The belief which would deprive man of all temporal blessings and pleasures for the sake of increasing his eternal felicity finds no reception in him. "Live, while it is called to-day," may be said

to be the text by which he rules his life. The present he knows, the future he does not; therefore, let him enjoy to-day and trouble not for to-morrow.

"Think, then, you are to-day, what yesterday
You were—to-morrow you will not be less."

When to-morrow comes it will be time enough to think of it. He who has brought you through "dead yesterday" will let no harm come upon you in "unborn to-morrow." Omar looks back over the past, and asks himself whence he came and why. It is the old question: What is life? The answer he gives is:

"I came like Water and like Wind I go."

"Into this universe the why not knowing
Nor whence, like Water willy-nilly flowing;
And out of it as Wind along the waste
I know not whither willy-nilly blowing."

If, then, the past is unknown and the future likewise, why not spend the few brief years he is sure of, in as happy a manner as possible? The summum bonum of happiness to Omar's mind is found in wine, and, in it, he would drown all thoughts of past and future in the enjoyment of the present.

"Ah, my beloved, fill the cup that clears
To-day of past regrets and future fears;
To-morrow—why, to-morrow I may be
Myself with yesterday's seven thousand years."

Then to the Lip of this poor earthen Urn
I lean'd, the Secret of my Life to learn,
And lip to lip it murmured—"While you live
Drink!—for, once dead, you never shall return."

The Grape that can with Logic absolute
The two and twenty joining sects confute
The sovereign alchemist, that in a trice
Life's leaden metal into Gold transmutes."

The philosophy of the piece is certainly Epicurean in the extreme. Life is given man to enjoy, such as it is. It will not be for long.

"The Bird of Time has but a little way
To flatter—and the Bird is on the wing."

It is interesting from a literary as well as a philosophic point of view to note some of the figures Omar uses to enforce the idea of life's brevity.

"Tis but a tent where takes his one day's rest,
A Sultan to the realms of Death address;
The Sultan rises, and the dark Farnash
Strikes, and prepares it for another guest."

Whether at Naisliapin or Babylon,
Whether the Cup with sweet or bitter run,
The Wine of Life keeps oozing drop by drop,
The Leaves of Life keep falling one by one.

"We are no other than a moving row
Of magic shadow shapes that come and go."

Such is life to the Persian poet, sick of the ceaseless controversies and impracticability of the religion by whose upholders he is surrounded. It is a cry against mysticism in every sense—a cry after the practical as opposed to the visionary—the reality is opposed to the impossible ideal. Not for centuries did men take up that cry, but when they did it was with a voice which caused the ancient fabrics of error and superstition to shake to their

very foundations. Omar's view like that of all such men is extreme, and we cannot accept it in toto. Such an utter disbelief and materialism would be as fatal to the advance of civilization as the belief it supplants.

Man cannot exist in a healthy condition of mind without a belief in a God and a future. It is inborn in his very nature, and if crushed the man is injured.

"Even in savage bosoms
There are longings, yearnings, strivings
For the good they comprehend not."

Even Omar cannot entirely overcome this instinct, and beneath his gross materialism we occasionally gain a glimpse of it at work. The poet

cannot drown his higher instincts even though he plunge into the abyss of drink.

He may counsel his fellow-men to be

"Perplex no more with human or Divine,
To-morrow's tangle to the winds resign,
And lose your fingers in the tresses of
The Cypress-slender minister of Wine."

But he cannot hold to that belief. He cannot be satisfied with the solution of the problem of life already reached. There must be a future. The One who called man into being must have something in store for him beyond the grave. We see evidence of this dissatisfaction with utter materialism in the poet's account of his visit to the Potter's house.

(To be continued.)

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the MCGILL OUTLOOK :
Dear Sir,

With all due deference to the feelings of those students who belong to fraternities, allow me to say a few words on behalf of those in the College who have the true welfare of their Alma Mater at heart.

Is there not a danger of the secret society spirit becoming injurious to our University? We boast now of no less than four Greek letter fraternities, besides several other associations all more or less antagonistic to one another. Three new fraternities have been founded since '97, which gives one an idea of the prevailing tendency to band together in cliques. I have no doubt that these associations do good in their own way, but I have heard several men

complaining lately of the partisan spirit that has characterized not only the meetings and elections in the various years, but also in athletic circles, where of all places, a spirit of impartiality should prevail. If such be the case, surely the societies have overstepped their bounds and cultivate rather a feeling of discord than fraternity. Many of our most promising and honourable students are fraternity men, and I am sure if they thought their own particular society the cause of creating partiality, they would be the first to denounce the evil. Thanking you for the space, I remain, Mr. Editor,

Yours sincerely,

IN TERRORE.

Societies.

DELTA SIGMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

The first meeting of the Delta Sigma Society was held in the Common Room, Monday, Oct. 9, at 5 p.m.

The number of members present was large, and, judging by the spirit of the meeting, the Society promises to be even more successful than in former years.

Miss Dey, the president, read a very interesting address, in which she stated that many new features were to be added to the programme this year.

The Society is now to meet weekly instead of every fortnight as formerly. Each alternate meeting being devoted to historical subjects, it is hoped that the long felt want of an Historical Society will be alleviated.

The change of environment which the removal of the Donalds department to the Royal Victoria

has brought about brings with it needs unmet before. To these a progressive body such as the Delta Sigma must adapt itself, and it is in consequence felt that the Society should become a social bond between the various Years, the opportunities for social intercourse being now not only more numerous but also more necessary.

It was unanimously decided to have monthly discussions upon current topics of interest, and to add to the usual programme of literary essays some which would deal with scientific subjects of popular interest.

The Alumnae Society having often expressed regret that it should be so separated from the Delta Sigma, it was decided to request the Alumnae to send a representative to each meeting.

After the president had concluded, Miss S. Cameron addressed the meeting for a few minutes. Miss Oakeley was unanimously elected Honorary

President. Miss McLean, Miss Cameron and Miss Brooks, Honorary Members.

It was felt necessary to form a Special Committee to arrange the programme for the historical meetings of the Society. The following officers were elected:—Miss S. Cameron; Miss Rorke, Chairman; Miss Jackson, Miss Molson, Miss Page, Miss Hitchcock and Miss Wisdom.

Miss Dickson was elected Asst. Sec.-Treas. and Miss Marcuse Reporter to the OUTLOOK.

Y. W. C. A.

The regular meeting of the Y. W. C. A. held Oct. 18th was led by Miss Bennett, who read part of the third chapter of Acts, and then gave a very interesting account of the Northfield Conference, at which she was the delegate from the McGill Y. W. C. A. Special attention was given to the importance of prayer and Bible study.

ROYAL VICTORIA COLLEGE,

On Thanksgiving Day, when all laborers are popularly supposed to give way to a feeling of gratitude and a spirit of thankfulness, we are told on good authority that some forgot it was a day of rest and studied. One even went up for lectures, and others had to go and refresh their memories with an inspection of the Dean's notice, notably a Senior and a Post-Graduate student. We wonder if they will forget when it is Christmas.

A very pleasant informal reception was given by Miss Oakeley on Thursday, the 19th, for the purpose of introducing the students to Miss Lichenstein, who is to arrange classes in music in the R.V.C. The majority of the students were able to be present, and a few of those who are kindly interested in us and our surroundings graced the assembly with their presence, thus making the social hour all the more enjoyable. Miss Lichenstein kindly played several selections, which were thoroughly appreciated. Those students who have the time to devote to the musical classes are much favored in their opportunities at the R.V.C.

The residents of the R.V.C. are wondering what unwonted bashfulness fell upon the men students about 1 a.m. theatre night. They refrained from showing the boldness of a former year, for they did not unveil the Queen's statue, they *didn't* bounce the policeman; indeed they only yelled. What was it all for? Did the fact that much wisdom dwelt behind those sombre windows awe their rather wild spirits, or were they scared?

When a window is left open what enters? A lofty-minded Senior says "the weather."

At a meeting of the First Year the following officers were elected:

- President—Miss Helen Lundie.
- Vice-President—Miss Marion Belyea.
- Secy.-Treas.—Euphemia McLeod.
- Reporter—Katharine Wisdom.

The Freshies feel much gratified at the interest shown in their proceedings, and only regret that

they have not yet accomplished any deed worthy of being put on record. We are twelve, however, and feel that a round dozen should accomplish something. We welcome Miss Parkin, of Toronto, to our class and residence in the R.V.C.

RULES GOVERNING THE USE OF MCGILL BADGES.

With a list of the names of those entitled to wear them for performances prior to 1899.

FIRST GRADE.

Form of first grade.—Egyptian M of red or white felt, six inches square, limbs one inch wide.

To be worn by.—(1) Men who have played in at least two championship games in one season on the senior Rugby Football team.

(2) Men who break a record at the annual University track and field games.

(3) Men who score at least two points in the Intercollegiate track and field games.

(4) Men who have played in at least two games in one season on the University hockey team should enter the senior series.

(5) The winner of the individual championship at the annual track and field games.

(6) Men who at present (June, 1898) hold the University records for track and field events.

SECOND GRADE.

Form of second grade.—Egyptian M of red or white felt, same as for first grade but with the addition of a small letter above to show for what branch of athletics the badge is awarded.

To be worn by.—(1) Men who have played in at least two championship matches in one season in the Intermediate Rugby Football team or in one on the senior team.

(2) Men who win a place on the University team in track and field games.

(3) Men who have played in two championship games in one season on the University hockey team which is playing in the Intermediate series.

(4) Men who have played in two championship matches in one season on the Tennis team.

(5) The second grade badge is retroactive in the case of (1) and (3).

Records of the names of those entitled to wear McGill Badges.—A book is to be kept in the University library in which the names of those entitled to wear the several badges will be entered. These names are to be submitted to the Grounds and Athletics' Committee for approval by the clubs concerned at any time during the playing season.

Past performances.—A sub-committee consisting of Prof. MacLeod, Messrs. King and Patch was appointed to determine the names of those entitled to wear McGill badges for past performances. The work of this committee is not yet complete, but a good deal has been done, and part of it is published below.

How Badges may be obtained.—Steps are being taken to have the system of McGill badges registered

so that they can be obtained only by order to the secretary of the Grounds' and Athletics' Committee. Those entitled to badges for past performances will be required to pay a small amount for them. Those who win them in future will be presented with them by the Grounds' and Athletics' Committee.

Number of Badges and Renewals.—Each man is entitled to two badges, one (white) for his sweater and one (red) for his canvas jacket or running jersey. A man who has won a badge at football must not wear it on a running jersey, and a man who has won a badge for track or field games must not wear it on a canvas jacket. A man may have as many varieties of the second grade badge as he can win. Badges may be renewed on return of the old ones and on payment of a suitable price.

WEARING OF THE BADGE.

The badge is to be worn on the center of the chest, except with a canvas jacket, when it is to be worn on the left side of the chest. Garments having badges attached can be lent only to those who are entitled to wear the badge, or to others if the garment be worn inside out.

The red badges are made to suit white canvas jackets and running jerseys, the white badges are for the regulation red McGill sweater.

SWEATER.

The McGill sweater finally adopted by the Grounds' and Athletics' Committee has a red body; two white bands one inch wide, one inch apart and one inch from end around the cuffs; two similar bands around the neck; one band two inches wide and two inches from the end around the bottom. The sweater is not complete without one of the badges mentioned above or else the ordinary McGill crest provided with a white border.

SUIT FOR TRACK AND FIELD GAMES.

Jersey, white with suitable badge, three-quarter inch red bands around neck and arm holes.

Trousers, white, with one inch red band down outside of legs and an inch and a half red band around waist.

Names of those entitled to wear the McGill M for past performances in Football 1881 to 1898 inclusive:

Angus, W. F.	McDougall G. W. (Capt.)
Alley, G. T. (Capt.)	McDougall, R. E.
Austin, C. V.	Mathewson, G.
Barclay, A.	McFarlane, W. D.
Barclay, J.	MacDonell, J. A. E. (Capt.)
Bond, F. L. C.	MacNutt, C. H.
Bowie, R. A.	May, J. E.
Brown, P.	Molson, P.
Brunelle, P.	Molson, K.
Budden, H. A.	McLea, E. H.
Calvert, S.	Moore, W. A.
Campbell, A.	Murray, W. L.
Campbell, L.	Mulligan, T.
Cockfield, B.	Naughton, —
Cowan, A.	Ogilvie, S.

Craven, J.	Ogilvie, N. C.
Davidson, S. (Capt.)	O'Reilly, P.
Dandurand, L.	Palmer, R. E.
Drinkwater, C. G.	Patton, H.
Donahue, W. A.	Powne, —
Donkin, F.	Primrose, J.
Duffy, P. F.	Proderick, W.
Dunlop, J. H.	Rankin, J. L.
Drummond, A.	Robertson, W. G. M.
Drum, L. (Capt.)	Robertson, E. A.
Elder, J. M. (Capt.)	Robertson, P. M.
Fraser, H.	Robertson, F. D.
Foster, P. L.	Rodgers, J. H.
Gaudet, C. D. (Capt.)	Ross, J. K.
Gillies, B. W. D.	Russell, H. Y.
Goulet, J.	Schwartz, H. J. (Capt.)
Glassco, A. P. S.	Sise, P. F.
Grace, A. H.	Smith, A. W.
Grace, N.	Smith, C. B.
Guthrie, D.	Smart, W. G. (Capt.)
Hague, F.	Sparrow, C. J.
Hall, A. R.	Sterling, R.
Halliday, V.	Sutherland, W. H.
Hamilton, E. H. (Capt.)	Smith, R. F.
Hamilton, D.	Tees, J.
Hamilton, W. J.	Tetreau, T.
Haythorne, T.	Thomas, F. W. (Capt.)
Henderson, —	Tobin, A.
Hill, W. H. P.	Trenholme, H. R. (Capt.)
Holden, E. de F.	Trenholme, H. W.
Howard, A. C. P.	Turner, W. G.
Hyslop, J. L.	Van Horne, R. B.
Hughes, —	Walker, J. L.
Irving, L. E. W.	Walsh, A. W.
Jacques, H. M.	Webster, R. E. (Capt.)
Jamieson, R. H.	Whitton, D. A.
Jamieson, W. L. (Capt.)	Whyte, J. S.
Johnson, H.	Whyte, J. T.
King, R. O.	Wilkinson, C. T.
Kerry, J. G. G.	Worthington, —
Kirby, —	Wright, G. C.
Leslie, P. C.	Wroughton, T.
Leveeque, J.	Yates, H. B.
Lowe, A. P.	Young, W. M.

Names of those entitled to wear the McGill M for past performances on the track. (Record Holders).

Events.	Record.			
1 Kicking football	108 ft.	51	ins	Mathewson, G.
2 Throwing cricket ball	341 "	5	"	Robertson, H. M.
3 16 lb. shot	35 "	9	"	McDougall
4 56 " weight	22 "	74	"	Brown
5 16 " hammer	54 "	3	"	McLeenan, P.
6 Running broad jump	29 "	11	"	Campbell
7 " high "	5 "	67	"	Killaly
8 Pole leap	9 "	91	"	Millburn
9 1 mile Bicycle	2 min.	36.5	secs.	Cousirat, H.
10 3 " "	8 "	29.5	"	Cousirat, H.
11 1 " run	4 "	40.5	"	Brodie, A.
12 1 " "	2 "	22.5	"	Barber, C. H.
13 1 " "	"	53.5	"	Robertson, H. M.
14 220 yds. "	"	24.5	"	Moore, Campbell
15 100 " "	"	10.5	"	Kennedy, Campbell
16 131 " hurdie	"	18.5	"	Todd, Van Horne
17 Sack race (100 yds.)	"	17	"	Baker, H. C.
18 Running hop, step and jump	42 ft. 7 1/2	ins.		Campbell
19 1/2 mile Bicycle	1 min.	15.5	secs.	Myers
20 Throwing discus	102 ft.	1/4	ins.	Fraser, H.

Readers who discover any mistakes of any kind in the above lists will do the Committee in charge a great favor by reporting them.

Prof. C. H. MacLeod, Messrs. R. O. King, F. S. Patch, Percival Molson, Committee.

Athletics.

INTERCOLLEGIATE SPORTS.

The first Annual Championship Meet of the Intercollegiate Athletic Association was held on the M.A.A.A. grounds on Saturday last. The McGill men won a decided victory over their opponents from Toronto University, with 69 points to 39. Solandt of Queen's won the Pole Vault and tied for second place in the High Jump. McGill had easy work in the Runs, while in the Weights, Toronto was much superior. We regret that owing to lack of space we are unable to give more than a summary as follows:—

100 Yards Run:—1. J. D. Morrow, McGill; 2. P. Molson, McGill; 3. A. N. Mitchell, 'Varsity.

Time, 10 2-5 sec.

Half-Mile Run:—1. H. M. Percy, McGill; 2. P. Molson, McGill; 3. V. E. Henderson, 'Varsity.

Time, 2.05½.

Broad Jump:—1. C. A. Rutherford, McGill; 2. H. Gander, 'Varsity; 3. J. W. Gray, 'Varsity.

Distance 20 ft., 5½ inches.

Throwing 16-lb. Hammer:—1. S. P. Biggs, 'Varsity; 2. J. W. Gray, 'Varsity; 3. F. W. MacLennan, McGill.

Distance, 88 ft. 10½ inches.

220 Yards Run:—1. J. D. Morrow, McGill; 2. P. Molson, McGill; 3. A. N. Mitchell, 'Varsity.

Time, 22 4-5 sec.

Putting 16-lb. shot:—1. J. J. Gibson, 'Varsity; 2. W. S. Ford, McGill; 2. P. Molson, McGill.

Distance, 35 feet.

High Jump:—1. C. A. Rutherford, McGill; 2. W. Ellwell, 'Varsity; 3. D. M. Solandt, Queen's.

Height, 5 ft. 4 in.

440 Yards Run:—1. J. D. Morrow, McGill; 2. P. Molson, McGill; 3. H. M. Percy, McGill.

Time, 51 seconds.

120 Yards, Hurdles:—1. J. L. Todd, McGill; 2. J. W. Gray, 'Varsity; 3. W. S. Ford, McGill.

Time, 18 seconds.

Throwing Discus:—1. S. P. Biggs, 'Varsity; 2. J. J. Gibson, 'Varsity; 3. C. A. Rutherford, McGill.

97 feet, 11 inches.

Pole Vault:—1. D. M. Solandt, Queen's; 2. B. E. Wiley, McGill; 3. Three 'Varsity men tied.

Team Race, One Mile:—1. McGill; 2. 'Varsity. Time, 3.36.

Class Reports.

ARTS '02.

Some members of our Year have been doing excellent research work in the chemical laboratory.

Pr-yn has found that the combining weight of iron is B.O.S.H.

McD-n-ld tried to get a B. A. out of some hydrogen but the test tube blew up.

C-al-le's last two experiments proved his work to be equal to N. O. T.

C-rs-n tried to raise blue blazes and could not get any farther.

TO FRESHMEN.

School Bags and Slate Pencils for Sale. Apply to the only child of Arts '03 who thinks that school bags are a necessity.

Our Year is pleased that Mr. Price is quickly recovering from his recent illness. We trust that he may not be long before he may be with us again.

There is no doubt but that Arts '02 will turn out some brilliant orators. C. Demosthenes Adams and M. Cicero Jack will likely become great men. Everyone who attended the last Literary Society meeting can testify to the marvellous strength of the last mentioned orator's voice. In the oration of our Year's yell he excels. The first orator mentioned is

calm but eloquent. Time and practice are the only requisites to make these gentlemen perfect in their art.

SCIENCE.

(1900.)

The members of last session have all returned with the exception of Mr. Buffet, who we believe has gone into business at Grand Banks, Newfoundland, and Mr. Black, the graduate of Sackville.

Mr. Cary has had an attack of asthma which necessitated his absence from lectures during the last few days.

The year did fairly well in the Sports, five men having entered and contributed in round numbers some thirty points to the Faculty.

A feature of the Mining and Chemistry class is the large number of men taking a post graduate course. They are not all McGill men either, a number being from across the line, while several are from the other side of the Atlantic.

(1902.)

Talk about the death rate in the Klondike and the destruction wrought on a battle field; speak in awed tones of the devastations of the black death and Eastern plagues; yea, talk of death and ruin till you are stricken with the lock-jaw, but when you come to the examinations of last spring hold your peace. Such themes are not for vulgar discussion

Yes, the ground is sacred to the memory of many a gallant youth who met his fate there. This was the Waterloo of our class. At one time it seemed as if utter annihilation could not be averted. But a kind and loving professorate saw and pitied us, and arrested the destroyer in his mad career. Truly it is sad to walk around again amongst the ruins of the class that was. So many bright prospects withered and high hopes blasted. But the class is again gaining strength, and great things may yet happen, especially after being recruited with so many gallant moustaches.

Maclaren claims to be the Czar of the Tenderloin.

There is some excellent lobster fishing ground in first year.

We owe an apology to our poet laureate for omitting his name from the list of class officers in last week's report, but, as it appeared in another place, we hope for pardon.

The Chemistry Sup on Friday was not quite fair to the boys who had to take part. No one knew about it until the time for it to begin. A sup less or more matters very little, but a fellow likes to know when he will be called on to swallow them.

No more holidays till Christmas; hard lines!

Great indignation prevails amongst the electrical students over having to take chemistry. These changes in the time table have mixed things up badly, but it will be a decided improvement to get physics before taking up chemistry.

(1903.)

This term opens with the largest Freshman Class that has ever entered Science. There is a total of nearly seventy members, representing nearly every part of Canada, except Labrador and the Klondyke.

At the opening class of the McGill Gym. this fall 50 per cent. of those in attendance belonged to Science '03. (N. B. The total present on the first night was 6.) As the Gym. is about the only place that Science students can get systematic exercise, all who can find time would do well to attend.

Students are cautioned against loitering near the

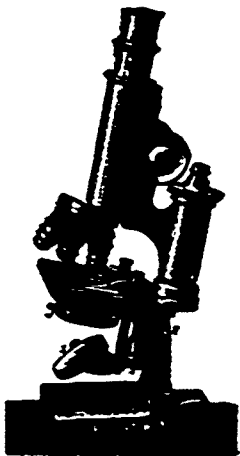
Physics' building for fear that the warmth of their bodies might affect the apparatus.

LAW.

A meeting of the Undergraduates' Society, called during the past week, was productive of nothing beyond a great deal of noise, lost time and general confusion. It was called to discuss a College project now on the tapis, but this very excellent movement was soon lost sight of in side issues. These, however, had the advantage of introducing some very remarkable orators who will one day be a mark, or, beg pardon, will one day make their mark. There is lots of very excellent material among the Law students for a debating club, and we would respectfully suggest that the gentlemen who took so prominent a part in the discussions of the last meeting form themselves into a debating club, the survivor to have the privilege of expressing his views on the University dinner question.

Some one has been asking as to where "Law" was in the Theatre night procession? In response we might say that there was a little, very little, Law somewhere up at the front of the procession. This occasions the remark that our Faculty failed very lamentably in their duty on Theatre night. The Freshmen are particularly to blame, not even half their number turning out and helping the affair along. It is to the Freshmen we look for help and co-operation in such events, and the Law Class of "1902" should, if an opportunity occurs, repair their damaged reputation as regards the interest taken by them in College events.

A Law Hockey Club is being talked of, also various other organizations which in all probability will never get beyond the "suggestive" stage. But the hockey idea is an especially good one, and if the men could be interested in the matter there is enough good material for a first-class team. By organizing early the College rink could be obtained at a convenient hour for practice, and the exercise, say of an hour in the evening, for our students with their abundance of indoor work would do them worlds of good in the health direction.



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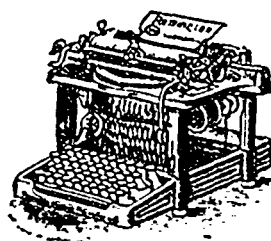
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SELF-CONCEIT ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS.

By Dr. Harry Campbell, Physician to the North-west London Hospital.

Self-assurance is a good thing--an indispensable thing, even--but morbid self-assurance, like many other morbid mental states, is merely an exaggerated degree of a normal condition. Self-assurance shows the principle of compensation at work, for if one believes he has what he seeks, and the thought brings him happiness, he in a measure possesses it. Therefore, his lot is in many ways preferable to that of him who, having it, is all unconscious of the fact.

Sane persons often have self-assurance to such an exaggerated degree as to appear ridiculous. In these their sense of power and importance is as great as in the general paralysis of the insane, the only difference being that they have no disorganization of the intellect and no genuine delusions.

In regard to his physical attractiveness his self-assurance is most pronounced, though he has no small admiration of his own mental capabilities. He is neither wanting mentally nor physically, as a matter of fact, and would be regarded as perfectly sane; he is simply a victim or irrepressible self-conceit.

In this instance the morbid self-assurance shows itself chiefly in respect to personal attractiveness, though it is also often displayed in regard to intellectual capabilities.

In some cases of morbid self-assurance it is often difficult to determine whether one is dealing with a perfectly sane person or with an incipient or abortive case of general paralysis of the insane.

A case in point is that of an intellectual and entertaining man who, in the latter years of his life, became convinced that he was a great actor. Some of his friends discovered and played up to this belief, got together audiences who enthusiastically applauded his performances, paid him

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the most exaggerated homage, even prostrating themselves before him in pretended admiration of his genius—in short, devising all sorts of means to flatter his weakness, and which mock hero-worship he received in perfect good faith and pathetically thanked the audience for the encouragement they had given him by their kind reception of his efforts.

Another case has only been under my observation for a few years, but I am told on reliable authority that he has been in exactly the same mental state for thirty years. He is what the world would call queer or eccentric, but, although he has unmistakably large delusions, he is yet able to carry on his work in his own peculiar way, and no physician would be justified in certifying him a lunatic, for the odd thing about him is that his megalomania is redeemed by a liberal allowance of shrewdness.

His delusion refers chiefly to athletic pursuits and accomplishments like singing and painting. His rendering of a serious song is comical to a degree, and his braggadocio as to his surpassing strength is quite as characteristic.

On one occasion, while spending the evening at a friend's house, a spirometer was produced, and after every one present had, according to a preconcerted plan, blown the index round but a few degrees, he, when his turn came, sent it round much further, although, as a matter of fact, his vital capacity was very inadequate. As the index moved round a note of incredulous surprise was sounded crescendo by those assembled, and this so impressed the little man with the extent of his respiratory powers that he could scarcely contain himself for the rest of the evening. Using the first opportunity he had of getting his hostess alone he said:

"If I were to meet X. (referring to a noted strong man), I should say: 'How long?' and with this he contemptuously moved his head slowly up and down, as if measuring and taking stock of the individual in question.

"How long what?" asked the hostess.

"How long would it take me to annihilate you?" was the reply. Here we have an unmistakable instance of megalomania in a man holding a responsible post and who has been mentally statu quo for many years past.

Self-assurance is a very useful attribute. It is helpful in every walk of life. The self-confident man steps to the front, while his brother, much more highly gifted, perhaps, but lacking his self-assurance, is left behind.

Who does not know of men who have achieved success through sheer cheek, and of others whose reserve and diffidence have prevented them from obtaining the position to which their abilities entitled them? Doubtless the success of the self-assured man is largely the outcome of the sense of well being and exuberant energy accompanying it.—"The Journal," New York.



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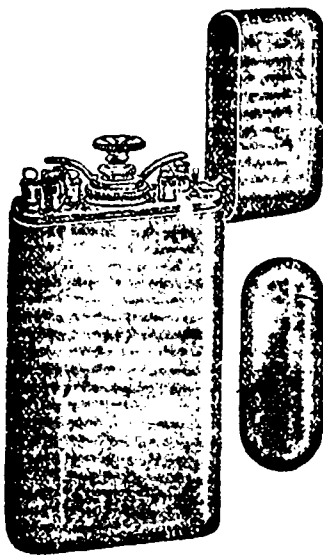
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