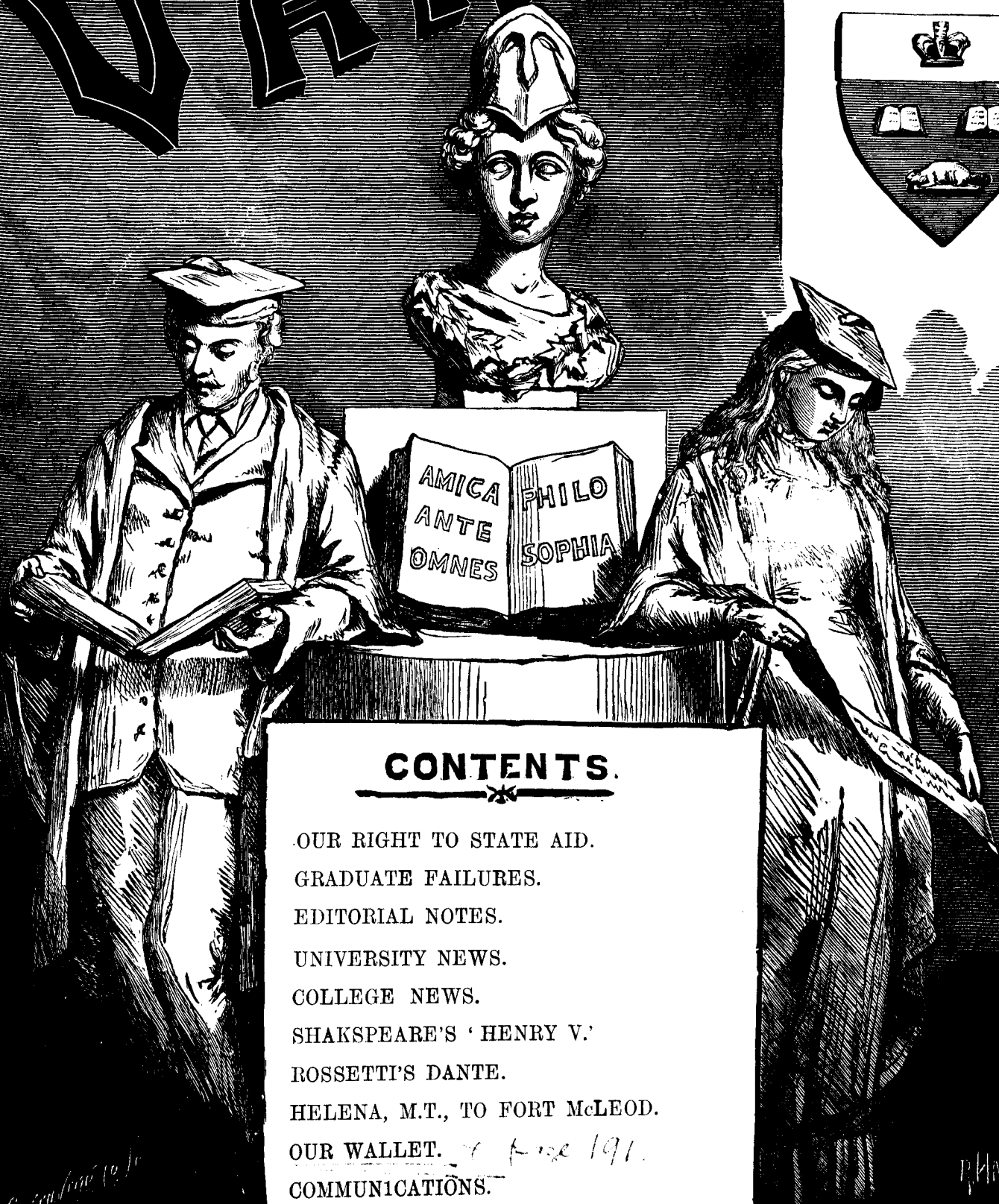


THE WARSTICY



CONTENTS.

- OUR RIGHT TO STATE AID.
- GRADUATE FAILURES.
- EDITORIAL NOTES.
- UNIVERSITY NEWS.
- COLLEGE NEWS.
- SHAKSPEARE'S 'HENRY V.'
- ROSSETTI'S DANTE.
- HELENA, M.T., TO FORT McLEOD.
- OUR WALLET. *7 p. 191.*
- COMMUNICATIONS.

University of Toronto, Feb. 9, 1884.

How they ogle,
How they sigh;—
How they very nearly cry;
For the Council will not let them
Attend lectures by-and-bye.

Chorus of Belles.

Dear, darling Mr. W—,
We're very loath to trouble you;
We hope we don't intrude?
We are in pursuit of knowledge,
And would like to go to college,
We're with noble aims imbued.
We promise you, on bended knee,
We'll never, never flirt;
Towards cheeky undergraduates
Our manners will be curt.
We'll never tramp, or make a noise,
Or imitate unruly boys
Who make Professors mad.
We'll chew no gum; no letters write
To undergraduates; but 'notes' indite—
This punning is too bad!
We're sure our presence cannot fail
To elevate the social scale
Of every undergrad:—
To make the wheels of knowledge whirl
Say: 'What! be beaten by a girl!'
Whew! that would make them mad.
So please say 'yes'
To this address,
We're long since past our 'teens.
If you say 'no,'
We'll straightway go
To Dr. Grant at Queen's.
Now, careful be
Of Gibson,— he,
Now sits for Hamilton.
He knows what's right;
He's going to fight
For us. He takes the bun!
Excuse the slang
Which we have sang,
Pardon the grammar too!—
Both prove the need
To ope with speed,
Your doors to us. *Adieu!*
But stay,—one word,
'Twould be absurd
Our ignorance to display:—
'For ever, and
'For ever, your
'Petitioners will pray!'

Chorus of Senators.

Before answering your petition,
We the liberty will take
Of thanking you for giving us
The opportunity to make
A few remarks, concerning
The principles at stake.
If you go away to Kingston,
A Grant gets you: but lo!
That matters not: for pretty soon
We'll get a grant, you know;
Which, everything considered, is
Sufficient, *quid pro quo*.
Now this advantage plainly lies
Without our college walls;
And hence accordingly you see,
Within your grasp it falls,
Insomuch so that we really must
Attend to other calls.
So, fare ye well, ye fair-haired Belles,

Regretfully we must
Say 'no' to your petition: but
Sincerely do we trust,
That all hard feeling for this act
You'll bury in the dust.

Toronto, 6th February, 1884.

—ERIC.

* * *

PICTURES.

Long rolling surges of a falling sea,
Smiting the sheer cliffs of an unknown shore;
And by a fanged rock, swaying helplessly,
A mast with broken cordage—nothing more.

A young Faun making music on a reed,
Deep in a leafy dell, in Arcady:
Three girl-nymphs fair, in musing thought take heed
Of the strange youth's mysterious melody.

The sad slow dawn of winter; frozen trees
And trampled snow within a lonely wood;
One shrouded form, which to the city flees;
And one, a masquer, lying in his blood.

—LEWIS MORRIS.

Communications.

To the Editor of the 'Varsity.

DEAR SIR,—As criticisms in your columns on Examiners and Examinations in general at present seem rife, possibly a few remarks on the modes of examination in classics in particular will not come amiss. Of these modes there seem to be two, very distinct; one which tends to train the memory simply, the other, mind and memory. An example will show at once what is meant. One Examiner asks questions of which the following is a fair example:—'Name all the extant works of the Greek Tragedians,'—questions which are purely a matter of memory and cramming, and which tend to narrow rather than broaden the mind, and to develop a single faculty, already sufficiently developed by the very nature of the subject, at the expense of those powers of reasoning and thought which are certainly of equal, if not of higher importance; while the other class of Examiners, under like circumstances, ask the moral which a certain named play was written to point, what thought of value is to be derived from its reading, its effect on modern literature, its connection with modern thought, or some question requiring exact scholarship, as distinct from one which seeks to know what Greek verbs augment in *ei*—or have the Attic reduplication.

These two styles of Examiners one might aptly designate the school of memory and the school of thought. It has always been the cry of the opponents of the study of classics that it trains merely the memory; but that it does so is the fault of certain Examiners, and not of the subject itself. Containing as it does, in the works of Aristotle and Plato, the germs of all philosophical thought since developed, it allows to the student whose desire is to train his mind, to increase his powers of reasoning, his ability to think clearly and accurately, all that even a special course in metaphysics would supply. In the Politics of Aristotle, properly studied, he has the beginnings of political philosophy, and the fact that too often, if such student desires a high place in the class list, he has to sacrifice all this to the memorising of what might be called 'slush,' in the shape of such questions as 'name the extant works of Plato,' 'give a list of Penelope's suitors,' is certainly an evil which cannot be too strongly denounced, but which will, nevertheless, remain a fact here so long as the school of memory is allowed to predominate over the school of thought in the classical Examiners of Toronto University.

Yours, &c.,

E. B.

To the Editor of the 'Varsity.

DEAR SIR,—I was somewhat surprised the other day to learn that it is a subject of some remark among outsiders, that the

exchanges of the 'VARSITY are not placed on file in our reading room.

It appears that at Victoria—and doubtless at other colleges—the 'VARSITY is placed at the disposal of the students: hence, it is considered as a slight, that neither *Acta* nor *The V. P. Journal* is accorded the same privilege here.

Even though the 'VARSITY be not supported by all the students, still it is representative of them, and its interests are identical with theirs. It cannot then be unreasonable to ask access to the papers of other colleges, and it would undoubtedly be beneficial, by broadening the views of our students. At present we learn very little of what is transpiring in sister institutions; so that our ideas of university work must necessarily be limited.

I would suggest, therefore, that your exchanges be placed on file in the reading room.

Truly yours,
E. J.

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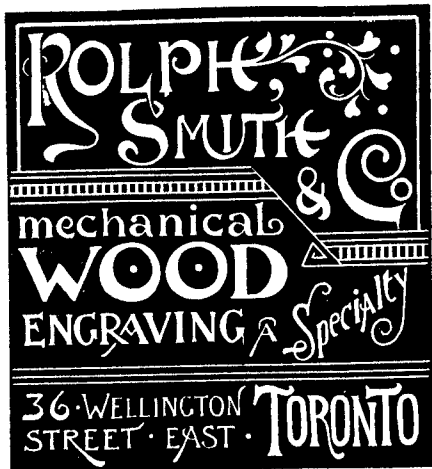
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THE ' VARSITY:

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF

EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY POLITICS AND EVENTS.

Vol. IV. No. 16.

Feb. 9, 1884.

Price 10 cents.

OUR RIGHT TO STATE AID.

One line of argument that has been made use of incidentally, by those who oppose our application to the Legislature for additional endowment, has not yet received the calm and unprejudiced attention it deserves. It is based upon a consideration of the ultimate source from which that addition, if granted, must come. That source is the pockets of the people. If we come before the representatives of the people of Ontario with a claim for a share of their money, it is only fair that that claim should be founded upon the free-will and licence of those upon whom the burden of taxation must necessarily fall. Were we not assured that the people of the Province, where not ruled by local interests, or interests more narrow even than can be defined by local boundaries, are in favor of the raising-up of their University into a position in harmony with the rest of the system of which it is only a part, our application would be unjustifiable, and would not be made. But we are assured that this is so, and are willing to rest our case upon the rational opinion of our people, as represented in their Legislative Assembly.

Our opponents in certain quarters have attempted to make capital out of the attention called to the burdening of the workmen and those upon whom taxation must of necessity fall most heavily, with the support of an aristocratic institution with which they have little or no sympathy, and from which they derive no benefit. This sort of argument is as false as specious. We are surprised at University men attempting to depreciate the benefits conferred by a university upon any class in the community; and yet we have seen this line of discussion taken of late by some such disputants, whose own position would have seemed to necessarily preclude its adoption. This aspect of the question we referred to last week, and it is so transparent that reiteration is unnecessary. With regard to the other statement, more dangerous and more plausible, having reference to the character of our institution, we would say that the University of Toronto is not aristocratic, but, on the contrary, essentially democratic in every feature.

The principles upon which our University was founded are just those which, practically and consistently carried out, must commend themselves to a democratic country. It was intended to be the highest stage of that educational system of which we are now so justly proud, whose leading principle was and is, the maximum of education at the minimum of cost. Just as our public schools have become free, and the elements of education placed within the reach of the poorest man's children; just as the old close grammar-school system has been abolished, and our high schools made in reality public and popular institutions, so it has long been the aim of those who are responsible for the financial management of our University affairs, to carry out, to a practical consummation, that principle upon which is founded, in the main, the success of our educational system as a whole. It has been the constant endeavor to attain to that position where every young man (and every young woman, too, we might add) having the requisite means for four years' support, might have the advantage of the highest and most thorough university training our country can afford. The advantage that has been taken of the fruits of that endeavor shows that it has not been unappreciated, and has not been made in

vain. For, as an examination alone of the statistics and curricula before us plainly shows, the bulk of the university work of the Province is done here, whether we judge by numbers or by thoroughness. And if our University has in any respect failed in a consistent carrying-out of her democratic policy, the reasons for it are to be found in obstacles overcome by a departure from adopted rules of action, and to be overcome in no other way. These departures, as we expected, we have been emphatically reminded of.

We are attacked upon the question of fees. On the one hand, we are told to increase our income, if we wish to do so, by an increase in fees. On the other we are accused of a failure in our liberal policy, as illustrated by the raising of the scale of fees two years ago. The former course could only suggest itself to the mind of an opponent lacking in more forcible arguments. The latter was forced upon us by financial necessity. Certain desired improvements and additions could not be obtained without; there were no funds forthcoming from any other source; and, reluctantly, the Senate was forced to a change in the scale of term and examination fees. That change was intended to be but a temporary expedient. Whether it is or not, must depend upon the action of those from whom alone we can expect assistance. Instead of a desire to increase the income of the University by an increase in the fees of undergraduates, it is desired to have an income sufficient to warrant the reduction of those fees to a nominal amount, or their total abolition. Much energy is now wasted in the economic business of the University, that ought to be expended in an entirely different direction. Not while our finances are in such a hampered condition can our professors cease to be financiers and business-managers, and become, as they ought to, professors alone.

Our position in this matter is very plain. Part of the educational system of Ontario, we wish to see that system developed in a thorough, and at the same time an harmonious advancement. As its other branches have, in their growth, kept pace with the growing requirements of our people, so the apex, the University, should so much the more be in a position to show as free and full a development. While the very poorest classes among us are proud to have the advantages of public-school and high-school training within their reach, so our poorest working-man must feel a pride in the possible gratification of his son's ambition for the completion of his study at the University, which he feels to be an institution his own, not through favor, but by right. That pride must extend to the complete equipment of the University in harmony with the needs of the Province. This is all that we now ask for. The University of Toronto has outgrown, long years ago, its original endowment, once sufficient. To accomplish the work the people demand of it, thoroughly and conscientiously, the present endowment must be increased. This we ask the electorate of the Province, through their representatives, to do, as part of their public duty. We lay our claim before them just as would be done by any other public institution, to which the public has given an increase of work, without increase of means to carry it on. We believe the Province is, on the whole, in favor of the allowance of our claim, and that neglect on the part of our Local Legislature would, at the present time, be at once a breach of duty, and a failure to perfectly reflect the opinion of their constituencies.

GRADUATE FAILURES.

It has long been a favorite subject of remark, among certain classes of people, that University men in the various professions do not show that superiority of which their much-vaunted collegiate training might have been deemed a guarantee. And it is an undoubted fact that a distinguished College or University career is by no means a sure or safe promise of future success. It is no uncommon thing to see men go forth from college walls, laden with honors, the pride or envy of all their cotemporaries, and the expected recipients of all the favors and successes genius can procure, gradually sink into an oblivion painful to themselves and disappointing to their friends. The causes of such failures are many. A study of them must be interesting and important, particularly to University men themselves. We will briefly consider a few which experience has shown us as the deepest-rooted and the most universal. They are to be found partly in the errors and imperfections of systems of University training, but mainly in the errors and blindness of those for whom that training is intended.

We have before pointed out that the University occupies a place in educational development, at once the keystone and completion of the prior stages of that development, and radically different from them. Here and here alone, does education cease to be dogmatic. Here students must be dealt with, and consulted, not as classes, but as individuals. Individuality is recognized, and more than this, is made the foundation of all further study and progress. Only in so far as this is so; only in so far as the Universities deal with men as men, and exert their influence for the developing and drawing-out of the inherent possibilities of each mind in its own separate entirety, do they fill the place they were founded to supply. This is the ideal towards which their perfecting should aim. And it is now the recognized ideal in the nations of the highest national enlightenment; in some cases, an ideal almost realized. Educationists, theoretical and practical, in Germany, England and Scotland, are gradually sweeping away all obstacles that stand in the way of freedom in this, the highest stage of education. But there still exist Universities, and they are not unknown among us, which are such in name only. So long as such institutions continue to admit within their pale those not yet fit to leave the school or college, and to place before them objects of study, incentives and rewards, incompatible with any true exercise of freedom of choice and pursuit in thought and investigation, so long do they discourage originality and encourage mediocrity; they are guilty of a breach of trust in the betrayal of the confidence reposed in them. They are not likely to send forth into the world such men as the world expects them to produce.

Consider the position of the matriculant. He is suddenly launched into a life and work different from any he has before known of. He recognizes, or ought to recognize, that he is henceforth thrown upon himself, and that everything must depend mainly on his own exertions. But accident or external influence may have led him into grooves of study which, with a set curriculum and its attendant necessities before him, cannot be departed from without inconvenience or peril. However unsuited the lines adopted may be to his mental inclinations or abilities, the further proceeded on, the more necessary in the circumstances does their continuance become. Early in his course he may be unfortunate enough to win a scholarship or prize, and this necessity becomes the stronger. And thus the rest of his College and University career is a narrow struggle for a place upon the class-lists; and finally a medal or a fellowship, the *summum* of his desires and ambition. Many intellects of natural brilliancy have thus been warped and ruined by shortsighted and vicious encouragement, held out by objects of ambition, delusive, injurious, destructive,—destructive of all the possible achievements of a mental development and action rightly directed.

Such is the logical outcome of that system of education which so long obtained in Europe; in opposing which Pestalozzi gave his name to a school of educationists whose system is now looked upon as the ideal one, and in which Herbert Spencer can find but one fault—that we are not yet sufficiently elevated or evolved to profit by its fullest advantages.

But while systems are to be blamed, the individuals governed by those systems are more culpable still. If an undergraduate of average natural ability turns out a failure in life, he has himself most directly to blame. Every man has a certain amount of originality, and a certain direction of intellectual taste, for whose development he alone is responsible. In that development his guiding principle should be that freedom which John Stuart Mill avers to be only freedom deserving of the name, that of seeking our own good in our own way. If the undergraduate allows himself to be so far ruled by external restraints as to crush out gradually all original germs of mental activity, he has himself mainly to blame for the results. He can, if the will-power and the moral strength be not wanting, work out, to no small extent, his own intellectual good in his own way. But if, giving way before fixed restrictions, however galling and pernicious, he willingly allows himself to fall into grooves of work for what neither his tastes nor his abilities fit him, he may expect to present an example of mediocrity caused by blight of originality and its attendant ambition. Aristotle's 'due mean in action' should be the warning statue set up before all specialists. If that warning be unheeded in the course of physical and mental growth, the undergraduate slave to rules and regulations, disregarding the highest ultimate object of study—the free and full development of all the faculties of mind to an harmonious whole—and looking forward to a medal-reputation as the 'be-all and the end-all' of a University career, is on a fair way to a ranking among these graduate failures to which the world points, and draws its morals.

Editorial Notes.

The Senate of the University has called a meeting of Convocation for Friday next, at 3 o'clock. The place of meeting will, in all probability, be the lecture-room of the Canadian Institute. The Executive Committee, which meets the same day, will have much important business to lay before Convocation in a definite form, and the afternoon will no doubt be an interesting and profitable one for members of Convocation, of whom a large attendance is requested.

In another column 'E. J.' raises the old question of the disposal of the Varsity exchanges and suggests the placing of them on the files of the reading room. The sole objection is on the score of impracticability. The Literary Society has neither room nor desire for two hundred college papers, and it is doubtful if, after a judicious use of the scissors, the more important of them would be very attractive. However, we feel sure that if the Society would make any propositions to the Directorate, some agreeable arrangement might easily be effected.

Of all the mean and narrow-minded utterances the present discussion of University questions in this Province has called forth, those which are to be found in the editorial column of the *Christian Guardian* of Jan. 2nd. are probably the most contemptible. All will remember the remarks of one of the political party organs on the occasion of the Liberal Convention a year ago, and the reprimand that journal received, even from its own supporters. Those remarks find a strikingly close parallel, for meanness, venom, and scurrility, in the *Guardian's* statements regarding the Banquet to be held on Friday next. We are glad to know that the *Guardian* has long since ceased to be, if it ever was, the mirror of respectable Methodist opinion, even within the sphere of religious disputation.

E. B., who writes us on the subject of classical examiners and their imperfections, evidently speaks from an unhappy experience. A perfect examiner is rare, almost unknown. Classical examiners are probably as far from perfection as any, partly owing to the nature of their subject, partly to individual weaknesses in themselves. Here, in Toronto University, the

mass of text-work to be mastered is almost enough of itself to tax the ordinary memory to its utmost at the expense of other and more important faculties. Originality of investigation, thought and expression cannot be looked for where so much time and energy must of necessity be expended in application in another direction. And lack of opportunity for, and encouragement of, originality, always leads, and must lead, to narrowness and dogmatism. Much of the fault, where fault there is, certainly lies at the door of the examiner. He, though imperfect, might have a standard of perfection to aim at, and he can do much to overcome the difficulty arising from the character of his subject. A well-balanced combination of the two schools called by our correspondent the schools of 'thought' and 'memory,' is certainly, in the classical department, a consummation most devoutly to be wished.

The final preparations have been completed for the banquet next Friday evening, in the pavilion of the Horticultural Gardens. The invitation and toast lists have been struck, and we are glad to see that the latter is got up on a sensible plan, and is free from the customary time-wasting superfluities. The one toast of "The Queen" will be presumed to include all the members of the royal house, all the great imperial institutions, the army and navy, and all the legislative, administrative and judicial departments of our Government, except the Local Legislature, which has a place to itself, and will be ably responded to. These, with the University and sister institutions, our High School and Public School systems, the Press and our graduates and undergraduates, are toasts that should call for able, pointed and vigorous speeches. The success of the banquet is now assured. Every university man should consider it his duty to be present. A very large number of undergraduates have promised their support and attendance in their memorial, which furnished the reason for the holding of the banquet at this time in the year. Graduates will meet in greater numbers than they have ever met before, and we believe that the reduction in rates, kindly granted by all our railways, will be no small inducement to those in the country to run up to town for a university gathering, for not a few of them the first in many years.

We were glad to receive Mr. McDougall's letter on Football in University College, which we published last week, but were prevented from referring to through lack of space. Mr. McDougall gives us a valuable contribution to the history of athletics in the College, and seems to us to speak fairly, and without undue partiality. Football has had a checkered career among us, and since the changes effected in the rules of the game not many years ago, both the Rugby and Association Clubs have had numerous and enthusiastic supporters, and, on the whole, marked success. Tastes differ in Football, as in almost everything else; and those who were responsible for the branching-out of the two clubs here into separate institutions, with independent constitutions and rules, deserve the greatest credit for a movement which has been productive of such satisfactory results. There will always be, on the one side, those who love the 'glorious scrimmage' of Rugby, and on the other, those who prefer the scientific dribbling and combined play of the Association game. We believe that in University College there exists no jealousy between the Football clubs, but that, on the contrary, both are inspired, independently, year after year, with the ambition to maintain their own superiority—on their own fields, and the reputation of the college which they represent, and which gives them their names.

University News.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

The meeting of the Society was well attended last evening, there being about sixty members present. The President, Prof. Ramsay R. Wright, occupied the chair. Mr. Kyles, the essayist, failed to give his essay. Voluntary readings were given by Messrs. J. G. Holmes and A. J. McLeod. The debate, which was

conducted under the new system, was highly enjoyed, the subject for discussion being, 'Resolved that Canadian Franchise should be arranged on the basis of manhood suffrage.'

Mr. G. Hunter, the leader of the affirmative, stated his position in a well-put speech, which was well criticized by Mr. May, who also advanced strong arguments in support of the negative. Mr. A. Hamilton delivered a careful and well prepared speech, which Mr. S. N. Duncan sharply criticized. Mr. Robinson followed in a vigorous speech. Mr. Aylesworth clearly defined 'Manhood,' and gave an enthusiastic and clear address. Mr. J. S. McLean, in a happy manner, considered the source of revenue, with its important bearing on the point at issue, his position being strongly attacked by a very elaborate address from Mr. T. A. Collins. Mr. J. A. McMillan followed Mr. Collins and took exception to his main argument. Mr. J. G. Holmes spoke fluently on the great injustice done to the property owners by granting the franchise to the class he termed 'floating.'

Mr. Witton pointed out to Mr. Holmes that Mr. Gladstone in his new Reform Bill strongly advocated manhood suffrage; and concluded the debate with a short resume in behalf of the affirmative. On a show of hands, the question was decided in favor of the negative.

The house was not divided, owing to the arrangements not yet being completed therefor. But the debate was characterized by marked enthusiasm. All the speakers seemed well prepared, and prompt in rising to their feet, which position a few seemed very loth to quit. Each speaker might, with advantage, where so many are prepared to speak, confine himself to one point, thus exercising the admirable gift of brevity.

The election for essayists, readers and speakers for the next public meeting to be held the 15th of March next, resulted as follows:—Essayist, Mr. J. G. Holmes; Reader, Mr. W. A. Frost; Debaters, Messrs. J. McGillivray, J. W. Roswell, J. Ross, and G. B. Aylesworth.

Mr. Fraser's motion to discharge the Committee appointed to consider the advisability of severing the Literary Society from the control of the College Council was unanimously carried.

Meetings of the 'affirmatives' and 'negatives' were held at the close of the debate and some important business transacted.

THE FORUM.

The first meeting of this society for the new year was held Saturday, Jan. 19th. Mr. Talbot occupied the Speaker's chair. The questions for discussion were Annexation, Independence, and Imperial Federation. The Bill for Annexation was introduced by Mr. W. Hunter, who dwelt on the subject in a clear, able, and exhaustive manner. An amendment, declaring for Independence, was moved by Mr. Poole in a few concise remarks. The amendment was seconded by Mr. Witton, the leader of the Government, who combatted for Independence in a very able and telling speech.

Mr. Jas. Ross moved a second amendment in favor of Imperial Federation. His style is clear, logical and dispassionate, and his speech made a very good impression. His amendment was seconded by Mr. Aylesworth with his usual fluency and vigor. The various phases of the question were ably combatted by the different speakers till a late hour, when the debate was adjourned.

The next night, Jan. 26th, the debate was resumed with increasing interest; Mr. Ferguson in the chair. It is impossible to recall the names of all the speakers, but the most conspicuous were G. Hunter, E. H. Johnston, J. Crawford, J. Simpson, S. H. Bradford, A. Elliot and A. F. Chamberlain. When the debate was concluded, the motion and both amendments were put and lost. Five notices of motion were given: a Franchise Bill, granting manhood suffrage to males, and to single females the right as now enjoyed by men, by Mr. Talbot, on behalf of the government; a Finance Bill, by the Premier, Mr. H. B. Witton; an Education Bill, by Mr. Jas. Short, also a Bill for the establishment of a National Park at Niagara; a motion of Want of Confidence by Mr. A. F. Chamberlain.

On the evening of February 2nd, an unusually lively debate was held, though none of the motions above named were discussed.

A motion to appoint a committee to consider the advisability of incorporating with the Literary Society met with spirited opposition, but was finally carried.

Then ensued a warm discussion on the present formation of the Forum, which was carried on with undiminished vigor till the hour for closing.

Before adjournment it was resolved to hold no more meetings till after the conversazione.

MODERN LANGUAGE CLUB.

The Modern Language Club held its usual meeting this week on Tuesday in Moss Hall, Mr. D. R. Keys, B.A., in the chair. Shakspeare's 'Henry V.' was the topic for the evening, all the parts of the programme bearing on this play. Essays were read by Mr. Chas. Whetham, on the 'Characteristics of Shakspeare's Historical Plays;' by Mr. A. MacMechan on 'Prince Hal and King Henry;' by Mr. Chamberlain on 'The History of the Play;' and by Mr. Aylesworth entitled 'General Remarks on Henry V.' These were interspersed with dialogues and recitations from the play. Mr. W. H. Smith gave the famous speech before Harfleur, beginning 'Once more into the breach,' with his usual force and vigor, and Mr. W. J. Rowand the equally famous one before the battle of Agincourt. Messrs. Needler, Hardie and Fere rendered the scene in which Pistol captures the French soldier, with great spirit; the palm must be awarded to Mr. Needler for his correct impersonation of ancient Pistol. The 'leek' scene followed; Mr. Roswell playing *Fluellen*, Mr. Sykes *Pistol*, and Mr. Shearer *Gower*. This proved very amusing, the audience demanding an *encore*. In the absence of the gentlemen who were to have taken it Messrs. Robinette, Bowes and A. E. Smith read the 'Wooring Scene' with which the play closes. This was followed by an interesting discussion of some questions raised in the essays. The meeting then adjourned. The enthusiasm manifested by all who took part made the evening a decided success, but it would be well if more time were spent in the preparation of the essays and dialogues.

NATURAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

Mr. Acheson, M.A., presided over the meeting held on Tuesday evening. Mr. C. F. Durand presented his opinion as to the object and use of extended classification in subjects such as botany and zoology. Mr. T. M. Hardie favored the Society with a pleasingly written essay upon the series of strata known as the Utica formation, directing his observations to a consideration of its origin, mode of deposition and geographical distribution in the Province of Ontario. Several localities in the vicinity of the Rideau River and City of Ottawa were particularized. Mr. Acheson read a short abstract of Darwin's 'Origin of Species' explaining the ideas of true evolution, natural selection, survival of the fittest, etc. The assertion in the report of last meeting 'That lower animals have no instinct,' was intended to mean that they do not possess instinct as ordinarily understood, but something more.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

The University Y. M. C. A. met on Wednesday at 5 p.m. as usual. The meeting was conducted by Mr. Sales. The services were opened by hymn 154, prayer was offered by the leader, followed by the reading of Heb. x., the twelfth verse of which was taken as the topic for the address. The marked contrast between Christ's sacrifices and those of the Mosaic economy were clearly pointed out. It was remarked that no matter how good an example Christ might be to follow, or how elevated His teaching, man's deepest needs could not be met by these alone, or in any other way than by the atonement. 'Without shedding of blood there is no remission.' If we admire intellectual greatness we have it in Christ; if moral purity, 'He was holy, harmless, undefiled and separate from sinners.' And when under a sense of guilt we apply to Him for pardon and cleansing, we find that God can be just and yet the justifier of him that believeth in Jesus. Mr. T. C. Robinette spoke briefly of the divinity of Christ. The meeting closed with singing and prayer.

THE COMPANY.

At a meeting of the Company held last Monday Mr. Acheson presented a statement of the financial condition of the Company, which showed that, owing to the action of the Government in refusing to pay for more than the regulation number of men, K Company has about \$120 less than was at first estimated. In consequence of this and the nearness of the University banquet it was decided not to have a dinner this year, and to reserve whatever surplus there might be in the funds for use on the 24th of May.

The N. C. O. class is largely and steadily attended, but the recruit class is as yet small; which is rather surprising, for it is manifestly to the advantage of any undergraduate wishing to

join to do so now and be drilled for one hour once a week, rather than to enlist later on in the spring or next fall, when there will be drill three times a week at least.

QUICQUID AGUNT.

The Glee Club sang at Richmond Hill last night.

The arrangements for the Residence dance are progressing favorably.

Notices have been put up in the Reading Rooms regarding practices not in accordance with the rules and regulations.

At the last meeting of the Canadian Institute, Professor Young read a paper on 'Imaginary Quantities,' which will, in all probability, be printed.

The growing opinion in regard to examinations is evinced by what Professor Young said to the Fourth year Metaphysical class, 'That examinations were a hindrance to teaching.'

Very few of our undergraduates availed themselves of the invitation to the public debate at Wycliffe College on account of the matters of importance that were being transacted at our own society. Those who went, however, report a most pleasant evening.

Many of our undergraduates attended the Trinity College Conversazione on Thursday evening, and unanimously report a very pleasant time spent. One feature of the evening—the dance—seems to have occupied their closest attention, and many are the regrets that a similar item could not be introduced upon our programme.

A meeting of 'K' company was held last week to reconsider the subject of the annual company dinner. It was decided unanimously not to hold the dinner this year. The cause of this resolution was the fact that the government refused this year to give any pay for men beyond the regulation number; consequently, 'K' receives pay for thirty-two men instead of for about fifty, as was expected.

Anyone attempting to write a history of a year at University College would most probably watch all the notices on the Bulletin Board, but there is one notice this week that would puzzle anybody not well up in College phraseology. It commences, 'A meeting of the Negatives,' and ends, 'By Order.' We first thought it referred to the freshmen, but upon enquiry we find it has something to do with the new working of the Literary Society.

A portion of the Glee Club having again been invited to take part in a concert at Streetsville, there may have been seen wending their way towards the Union Station last Friday twelve satchels, accompanied by as many owners, or quasi-owners, namely, Messrs. Frost, McKeown, Wigle, Cane, Young, White, Vicars, McWhinney, Brown, Henderson, Morphy, and Fleury. They, after contributing their share to the programme in the shape of glees, College songs, and 'The Regular Army, O,' a song and drill under the captaincy of Mr. J. McG. Young, were invited by Mr. R. B. Barber to a dance, at which there were about seventy-five couples present. We will not venture to say how many Conversazione tickets were promised, or how many impressions were made, except that all returned home next morning after a most enjoyable trip.

ROTTEN ROW.

Mr. Bleakley, second year Engineering, has been obliged to return home through ill-health.

Residence is about to lose two of its numbers. Mr. E. J. Bristol, B.A. '83, who will move down town, after being in residence six years, and Mr. R. Moss, who is going to enter the law office of Messrs. Ross, Killam, & Haggart, of Winnipeg.

The first house has got an acquisition—a kitten.

The question that is puzzling the Doctor is, 'What is the worst thing he can do?' To ask two friends to the dance and make enemies of the remainder, or promise invitations to everybody and give to none.

QUICQUID QUERIES.

What the students are going to sing at the banquet.

Why there is not a dance in Convocation Hall after the Conversazione.

If the freshmen will understand the magic lantern jokes in the Mathematical lecture room at Conversazione, or if they will forget to bring their gowns.

If Webb will start hauling up provisions early Monday morning.

If he will recognize a Residence student by sight.

College News.

TORONTO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

The *Canadian Practitioner* for February is out, containing some very interesting papers. Through the kindness of the editors of this journal each of the 3rd and 4th year students receives it gratis during the time they are at College.

Mr. H. S. Marrin of the 3rd year has gone out to Algoma to fill the vacancy of Mr. Stuart in connection with the C. P. R. We congratulate Mr. Martin upon his appointment, and hope that he may have a pleasant time during his sojourn in the North-West.

Mrs. Dr. A. H. Wright held an at home to the students of the T. S. M. on Wednesday, the 30th, at her residence on Gerard-street. The boys are deeply indebted to her for the many pleasant evenings they have spent in social enjoyment this year.

Dr. W. W. Ogden has finished his course of lectures on Jurisprudence and Toxicology, and we believe some of the Professors intend filling up the vacant hour by extending their lectures to two hours.

Mr. J. W. Clerke has recovered from an attack of typhoid fever and has returned to work. We hope that his illness will not interfere with his standing in this, his final year, after having taken such a brilliant one in the past three.

The Annual Ball in connection with the Toronto General Hospital was held on Wednesday evening, the 6th inst. Perhaps his answers for the fact that there was so small an attendance at the clinic on that afternoon.

Mr. Cochrane is filling Dr. Scott's place as house surgeon, while the latter gentleman is taking a short holiday.

McMASTER HALL.

The students of McMaster Hall were entertained last night by the founder of the college.

The writings of the Greek and Latin fathers as far as the 12th century have been recently added to the library. They are bound uniformly and present a handsome appearance. The donor is the Hon. Wm. McMaster. Mr. McMaster, besides having given the College building, contributes the salaries of three professors, and in addition to this has invested money bearing interest to the amount of \$1,500 a year, for remuneration to students for work done during the summer. If University College could find a few men of equal liberality, it would soon be lifted out of its present financial difficulties.

GENERAL REMARKS ON SHAKSPEARE'S
"HENRY V."

(Read before the Modern Language Club, Feb'y 5, 1884)

'Admit me chorus to this history ;
'Who, prologue-like, your humble patience pray
'Gently to hear, kindly to judge.'—
'Piece out our imperfections with your thoughts.'

In the skilful way in which it appeals to the patriotic prejudices of an insular people, this play suggests Tennyson. Probably it paid Shakspeare, for the way to the depths of men's pockets lies through their hearts.

That literary fame was not his chief motive is shown by the carelessness with which Shakspeare let his plays shift for themselves: it is likely that could he have foreseen all that would be written about his dramas he would have been appalled into the suppression of them. They were produced for a purpose, which purpose they perfectly fulfilled, and, as all perfect work is apt to do, they proved imperishable.

Henry V., the Welshman, the perfect sovereign, the Lancastrian relative of the regnant Queen, all subtly tended to make the drama acceptable to Elizabeth, and, of course, to her court; and so to fill Shakspeare's theatre and replenish his pocket:—conduct how like a laureate!

The scenes utterly disregard the "unities;" but, however it may be with the freedom of the will, the freedom of the imagination is unquestionable; fancy is absolutely unfettered.

The first scene makes manifest the wiliness of the ecclesiastic mind, and gives us a glimpse of the hidden power that impels the arm that sways the sceptre. The archbishop with the king shows

the influence that subtle knowledge can bring to bear upon passing politics.

King H.—'May I with right and conscience make this claim?'

Arch. Cant.—'The sin upon my head, dread sovereign:—'

strangely foreshadows the constitutional theory of the responsibility of his advisers for the acts of an English monarch.

Act III. sc. I.—King Henry's speech before Harfleur makes a pretty little oration; but it is unnatural inasmuch as we cannot conceive of a king talking so in actual battle. But a drama unavoidably necessitates one to draw more or less on an indulgent imagination.

In sc. II., the Irishman and the Scotchman are both such as no man ever saw. Fluellen is a better Welshman. Likely Warwickshire Shakspeare had seen more of the Welsh than of the Scotch or of the Irish.

Sc. III. is a fine narrative and descriptive poem, but open to the same dramatic objection as sc. i. of this act.

Act IV. sc. I.—King Henry's prayer. When he addresses the Deity, he speaks to the point: there is little rhetoric about it, but a plain confession of what is burdening his mind. Shakspeare knew just how an upright man should pray.

Act V. sc. LAST.—In one of his novels Wilkie Collins says that a Frenchman cannot be left alone with a lady for five minutes without feeling himself under obligations to proffer gallantry to her, unless the lady be his wife. A barrister advised me, when I wished to learn French, to seek the society of some French young ladies—they can be coaxed, at times, to talk,—only that it would be well to get my heart insured or vaccinated previously, for the vivacity and very genius of their language made love-igniting compliments and honey-sweet wit quite unavoidable.

Shakspeare did not out of nothing create the characters and invent the plots. He harmonized. Frequently the very words are borrowed, and merely versified and adjusted to the requirements of everlasting appropriateness.

Nym, Bardolph and Pistol are ridiculous remnants of the preceding plays. They are useful as a contrast to the noble character of Henry, who, but for these contemptible ones, might have made early vice seem less revolting. Though the humour of these vulgar three may be not readily appreciated, who could not with ease penetrate the 'Quondam Quickley?'

Scroop in his crime is very human; his conduct illustrates the temptation to throw one's self over a precipice. To some men of high-strung temperament the very vastness, the imminence of an evil, its appalling enormity, renders it irresistible.

Sir Thomas Overbury said; 'I had rather men should complain of my small hopes than of my short performances.' Prince Hal proved better than anybody hoped. He parallels Brutus, Tarquin's contemporary, or Ulysses fighting Irus, in the 18th *Odyssey*, where prudently he refrains from striking with all his strength. Achilles and Henry V. died opportunely for their fame. They were permitted to depart before anything happened to mar the renown they had already achieved. Burns, Byron, Lincoln, Garfield are possibly parallel instances, while neither Napoleon, Cromwell, Cæsar nor Alexander died soon enough.

'The best poets keep close to nature.' We are capable of criticizing the naturalness of Shakspeare's people. We say 'this is just how such a man in such circumstances should speak.' Shakspeare exercised the same faculty. The fitness of his thoughts commends them to our judgment; our minds, appreciative, can claim kinship; he is like us. Then, is it much to be wondered at that we admire him?

In a religious paper I once saw an article on Ann Hathaway. It said she must have been a very unreasonable woman not to have been able to live with a man so many sided as Shakspeare. Evidently the writer supposed that Shakspeare himself was the original of all his characters!—in which case truly the woman would be hard to satisfy who couldn't find among them all, from Hamlet to Caliban, a sufficiently multifarious husband.

Many people quote passages from his dramas as expressions of Shakspeare's own opinions; which is about as warrantable as the hard-to-suit Ann Hathaway above instanced. Yet there are multitudes of passages of perfect poesy which Shakspeare alone entirely originated and appropriated to the dramatis personæ, some of which are these:—

'And whipped the offending Adam out of him.'

Arch. Cant. betrays a truly Protestant knowledge of the Scriptures: likely Shakspeare too, had 'heard tell' of them.

'The strawberry grows underneath the nettle.'—Beautiful: but I do not know that nettles and strawberries are apt to be produced by the same soil. Maybe the metaphor is meant to abide

emphatically in 'underneath'; *i. e.* the tall weedy stalk of the nettle cannot escape notice, while the 'wee modest crimson-tippit' strawberry lies so low as to be liable to be stepped upon, sooner than seen.

ACT I. sc. II.—Canterbury's 'bee-hive' simile lacks neither beauty nor appropriateness, but it is not exact. Apiarists say the hive is a republic, where old maids are emphatically enfranchised, the workers being all undeveloped females!—the so-called 'Queen' merely a femal embryo, hatched by a different process of incubation, matured and fed for the special purpose of breeding eggs. Once upon a time, a stranger, a stray sun-beam of a man, as 'twere, meandered into a Sunday School. The Superintendent asked him to talk to the children on the lesson, which had in it the passage: 'Now, Moses was an austere man: and he made an atonement for the sins of the people.' This untutored young man couldn't read very readily; so he rendered the text, 'Now, Moses was an oyster man; and he made an ointment for the shins of the people.' Then he placidly proceeded to expound how that the children of Israel lived near the shelving shore of a rocky sea; and how in fishing for the oysters, in wading around among sharp-edged rocks, they used to bark their tender shins; and so Moses in making an ointment for them proved himself a sympathetic and merciful man. When the Superintendent whispered to him that he had made a little mistake, and gently suggested the correct rendering, the man said 'Don't say a word: let it go: I made a good story out of it, anyhow.'—So *Cant.* makes a good use of this bee-hive.

ACT II. sc. I.—The boy's 'Good Bardolph, put thy face between his sheets, and do the office of a warming-pan':—parallels a scene pictured in London *Fun.*:—one Cabby points to his rival's ruby nose, and sighs 'Oh, Bill! don't I wish I had what that nose o' yourn cost you?'

Mrs. Quickley, on Sir John's death,—'a babbled o' green fields,'—is Theobald's emendation. Shakspeare's plays are not as he left them: but, as we possess them, they are the results of the best wits of many men of culture and keenly critical intellect.

Exeter,—end of Act II.—'Now he weighs time even to the utmost grain';—convincing evidence of the King's wisdom.

ACT III. sc. VI.

King H.—'My numbers lessened, and these few I have
Almost no better than so many French':—

keen wit, of which the Frenchman was likely to feel the full force.

ACT IV. sc. I.—'Thus may we gather honey from the weed': a thing rarely done: but yet more rarely thought of. 'Winding up days with toil, and nights with sleep':—ideal life of a healthy man. It reminds me of the days of my youth on grandfather's farm.

Sc. III.—*King H.*—'Bid them achieve me and then sell my bones': resembles Mrs. Partington's receipt for cooking a hare;—item;—'First, catch the hare':—

Sc. VI. — 'takes him by the beard, kisses the gashes
That bloodily did yawn upon his face':—

repulsive: yet the Japanese paint grotesque repugnant pictures upon their porcelain that the artistic grace and beauty of its workmanship may seem by contrast greater.

ACT IV. sc. VII.—'I neet not pe ashamt of your majesty, prais't pe Got, as long as your majesty is an honest man.' Can Shakspeare have been a plagiarist? or did he intend us to suppose that Fluellen had never read Mr. Alex. Pope's 'An honest man's the noblest work of God?'

ACT V. CHORUS.—'Now the general of our gracious *Empress.*' Beaconsfield's precedent for our sovereign's newest title. What becomes of the arguments of those who deprecate the phrase, 'Empress of India,' on the ground that from the earliest times, no higher title was given to the occupants of the throne, than Kings and Queens of England!

ACT V. sc. II.—'These fellows of infinite tongue that can rhyme themselves into ladies' favors, they do always reason themselves out again':—It should seem to be always an act of reason to get out of love, as it was of unreason and rhyme to fall into it.

King Henry affords an illustrious example of a noble, God-regarding man: York, of a chivalrous soldier: Canterbury, of an astute prelate: The Dauphin, of an ideal dude. Fluellen, the worthy Welshman, stands upright on a plane with Williams, the sturdy and true,—the 'Englishman, and it's greatly to his credit.' Pistol, Nym, and Bardolph are specimens of tough humanity hard to be paralleled: while the boy is a wide-awake wit. Katherine,

Elizabeth's ancestress, is bewitchingly coy and coquettish; and her handmaiden an obsequious echo in flesh and blood. The 'quondam Quickley' and her fate must have afforded the play-going gentle ones of those days a vivid warning, a most moral illustration of the condition of character whereunto vice indulged inevitably tends.

When Shakspeare's plays for pleasure we peruse
'Twi'x what we seek, and speed, we need to choose:
If we make haste
We hardly taste
What we should deeply drink;
For all its bliss
Consists in this,—
What Shakspeare makes us think.

ROSSETTI'S DANTE.

In the February number of the *Century Magazine* is an article on Dante by Christina G. Rossetti. Not only is the family of Rossetti connected with that of the great Italian poet by the name of one of its members, but a still stronger bond unites the two, that of love and reverence. As a proof of this statement, I need only mention the works which have been an outcome of this love and reverence. Gabriele Rossetti, the father of Christina G., has contributed a 'Comente Analitice sull' Inferno di Dante.' His daughter, Maria Francesca, has, in her 'Shadow of Dante,' treated of the Divine Comedy in its relation to Christian faith and morals. His son Dante has translated the 'Vita Nuova' and other minor (poetical) works of his great namesake. His son William has rendered the 'Inferno' into English blank verse. What stronger evidence could we require of the estimation in which this family hold their great national hero?

The article in question is imbued with a deep and earnest love of Dante. First the writer traces his more public life, referring to his occupancy of the magisterial chair of Florence, his banishment and the ensuing change in his principles. This is followed by a short account of his connection with that 'youngest angel,' the virtuous and lovely Beatrice. Perhaps it would be interesting to those who have not read this article to learn the different interpretations made of Dante's names. Alighieri, a name derived from an ancient ancestress, has been turned into 'Aligero (winged),' fitly applied to the 'master spirit, that fathomed Hell and ascended through Purgatory to the heights of Heaven.' Dante or Durante have also their interpretations: the former is the 'giving' one, the one to whom the whole literary world, if not the whole of humanity, owe a debt of gratitude; the latter is the 'enduring' one, whom 'posterity will not willingly let die.'

Christina Rossetti's tracing of Dante's life has its interest heightened by numerous quotations from the great author's works, aptly brought in as illustrations. She has dealt with her subject as she would have all critics do—in that spirit of impartiality which Dante himself advocated in his *Paradise* (13-19):—

'And let not folk in judging trust their wit
Too fast, as one who counteth up the corn
In 's field before the suu has ripened it, &c.'

Although she does not try to hide the darkness of Dante's character, she yet forgives him, as is becoming in a fellow-mortal subject to sin, and then she commends him to 'that satisfying peace whereunto Dante consigns Boethius.'

As to Christina Rossetti's remarks on the efforts of commentators to find a hidden meaning underlying the great poet's words, we would say that if this search after hidden treasure in the works of our master-poets affords their readers any pleasure or profit, we do not see why sentence should be passed on them. But if we ask ourselves the question: did the author, while writing, have all or any of these underlying meanings and allusions in his own mind?—that we cannot answer. To him, Beatrice, she who guided him, after the departure of Virgil, through all the glories of the paradise, up to the ineffable presence of the Trinity, to him this object of his love was far more than an impersonation. But, on the other hand, she so far surpassed in his eyes all other women, she was so superior in virtue, beauty and all the heavenly qualities, that we cannot imagine anything more probable than that he would look upon her as an angelic being sent down to earth on a mission of love and mercy from the great Father of us all.

HELENA, M.T., TO FORT McLEOD, N.W.T., *via* FORT BENTON.

II.

In a former paper I described the journey by the Northern Pacific from St. Paul to Helena. When I arrived at Helena I was the tenderest of 'Tenderfeet'—the greenest of 'Pilgrims,' and consequently was continually being fleeced, and no doubt afforded much quiet amusement to my Western friends and acquaintances. The desire of 'taking a rise' out of an Eastern pilgrim seems to be universal in the West—it rises to the dignity of a passion—and no pains are spared, no details are considered too insignificant when an old-timer undertakes an elaborate 'sell' for the unsuspecting stranger. In St. Paul I had been assured that everyone in Helena carried a revolver and cartridge belt, or a Winchester repeating rifle, and I had accordingly added these necessities to my outfit; I was somewhat disappointed to find the citizens of Helena quietly walking about the streets in a thoroughly respectable manner, and my rifle and revolver about as much needed as they would be on King-street in Toronto. However we have already stayed too long in Helena.

A daily stage—Concord coach—runs from Helena to Fort Benton—one hundred and eighty miles (if I remember rightly), making the trip from one point to the other in about thirty-four hours.

The scenery for the first day is magnificent—the road leading northwards through a broad valley, or perhaps more properly speaking, a plateau, in the mountains, which becomes gradually narrower until the splendid pass known as the Prickly Pear Canon is entered. The canon is some twenty four miles long—huge cliffs tower on either side for thousands of feet, in many places overhanging the road, which is built along a narrow ledge of rock, itself overhanging the river foaming and plunging below. Every few miles a break in the cliffs gives one a view of the snow clad peaks of the main range, and about the middle of the canon, where the cliffs are less rugged, and recede for a considerable distance, a few squatters have settled and make a desperate attempt at farming.

Passing out of the canon, the road bends outward, crosses the Dearborn, and then we begin to ascend a saddle over the eastern range of the mountains known as the Bird-tail Divide. I shall never forget the splendor of the sunrise or the exhilarating sense of freedom as we thundered down from the top of the Divide one lovely morning in July, with four horses galloping to make up time—and all brakes cast off.

From this point into Fort Benton the scenery becomes more monotonous, long sweeps of undulating prairie—dull-sienna coloured grass—blue-gray patches of alkali—an occasional marshy pool—the burning sun beating down on it all with an intolerable glare, combine to make a scene which in its dreary monotony is only too familiar to everyone who has travelled over the Western plains. Mr. Black in his 'Green Pastures and Piccadilly' attempts to work up some little enthusiasm over the scenery on the prairies, but his admiration is forced and his words have the ring of hollowness. I defy any man to travel over the plains for ten or twelve successive days without being heartily sick of them, and without an intense longing for the cool shady woods, or the varied beauties of hill and dale.

At Fort Shaw I saw for the first time a troop of United States cavalry, and must confess was not deeply impressed by neatness or discipline.

We did not reach Fort Benton until after nightfall, but I walked down the main street, along the bank of the Missouri, and saw enough to convince me that few towns can rival Fort Benton in dirtiness, loafers, bad whiskey, gambling hells and all sorts of vice. Its one redeeming feature seems to be the excellent hotel. Fort Benton is almost at the head of the Mississippi and Missouri navigation, and it seemed marvellous to think that from this far-north point one can travel uninterruptedly to the Gulf of Mexico—in the Tropics.

From Fort Benton to Fort McLeod there is a tri-monthly stage—a "Dead-axe" waggon with four mules—which occupies eight days in accomplishing a journey of two hundred and thirty miles.

The monotony of the trip is unexampled in my experience—prairie everywhere—the only objects of interest being in the details of vegetable and animal life. The prairie-flowers, principally composite, are gorgeous,—sun-flowers, ox-eyed daisies of all colours, *et hoc genus omne*. There were plenty of prairie-dogs to shoot at—the results being generally equally harmless to them and our-

selves, and an occasional rattle-snake in the trail would cause a momentary excitement—invariably resulting in a sudden and violent death on the part of the snake, under a volley of revolver bullets. Every morning we started at about five or six—"nooned" for a couple of hours at mid-day for lunch, and to feed and water the horses—and then hitching up again continued our journey until nightfall, when we generally camped by some river or small lake. A glance at the map will show that our road crosses the Teton, Marias, Milk River, &c., tributaries of the Missouri—so that we were seldom without good water, an inestimable blessing on the prairies.

After closing the Milk River Ridge, just north of the Boundary, the road leads by way of Dismal Coulee, Kipp's Coulee, and Fifteen-mile Butte, to Whoop-up or Fort Hamilton on the St. Mary's River. Fort Hamilton is a very strongly built log fort with high palisades and bastions, built some ten years ago by whiskey-traders, who used to reap an enormous harvest before the days of the Mounted Police. But its glories are things of the past, and its walls, no longer needed for protection from the Indians mad with Fire-water, are tumbling to decay. An old whiskey trader said to me mournfully—"If the Government had only left us alone for five years longer, there would not have been a blank-blank Injun alive in the Territory," and, after tasting the Fort Benton whiskey, I became convinced of the simple candour and truthfulness of my informant. Really, however, the importance of the work being done by the Mounted Police in the North-west Territories, and the pluck and energy with which they have encountered all the difficulties and discouraging obstacles necessarily incident to a wild country and new manner of life, is altogether too little appreciated by us. It is beyond all praise.

From Whoop-up we drove into Fort McLeod in fine style in a few hours. The little town is built under the protecting eyes of the Mounted Police Fort, on the banks of Old Man River. It is far from imposing, consisting of some fifty or sixty log houses, roofed in many cases by turf, on either side of a long, straggling street. But the place is full of life, business, and activity. It is the centre of the large and important cattle ranching business—the market and distributing point for all the surrounding farmers and settlers. J. G. Baker & Co., the Wells, Fargo & Co., of the Canadian North-West, do an enormous business in their general store and banking house. The importance of their banking business can be estimated by the fact that nearly all the capital invested in cattle passes through their hands, and nearly every ranche keeps a banking account with them. Baker & Co. have done much to aid in the development of the country, and are deserving of great credit for their enterprise and generosity. One can purchase almost any article in their store that is required, and, as is almost universal in the West, rely upon getting the *best* goods that are made. Shoddy and cheap things cannot be sold either in the Western States and Territories or in our own North-West. Cow-boys, miners, bull whackers, mule-skinners, etc., etc., have few wants, but when they do want a thing, they want it the best of its kind.

Fort McLeod is an important police post. Major Crozier is the commanding officer—a gentleman whose kindness and hospitality to strangers is almost phenomenal—and Mr. G. B. Moffatt, formerly of Toronto, is under him as Inspector. The non-commissioned officers and men are a jolly set of fellows, and one meets among them many of those old friends who have disappeared from Ontario.

A new town site, a little higher up the river, was laid out last summer and it is expected that next season the inhabitants of the present town will move into new quarters. A new police fort is in course of erection at a cost (if I remember rightly) of some \$30,000.

C. C. McCaul.

Our Wallet.

CO-EDUCATION.

Listen to the Belles,
Fair-haired Belles!
How their plaintive, pensive wailing
For co-education swells!