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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Dr. Bourinot's Lecture	97
Mock Parliament	98
Literature and Nature	98
S. P. S. Notes	100
Students' Societies	100
Varsity Glee Club	100
University College Dinner	101
Editorial	102
Letters	103
Question Drawer	103
The Inter-year Rugby Contests	104
Lacrosse	104
Toronto Medical Dinner	104
The Ladies' Glee Club Concert	106
New Books in Library	106
Corridor Cullings	108

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THE VARSITY.

A Weekly Journal of Literature, University Thought and Events.

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, DECEMBER 9, 1896.

No. 9.

DR. BOURINOT'S LECTURE.

The Political Science Association are to be congratulated on having made such a successful beginning to the comprehensive programme which has been prepared for the year. A larger audience was never seen at the meetings of the Association than the one which confronted Dr. Bourinot on Thursday in the Students' Union. The chair was occupied by President Loudon. Dr. Bourinot spoke on the English Principles in Canadian Government, and began by a pleasing reference to the distinguished scholar and genial gentleman who was for so many years President of University College, and did so much to add to its usefulness by his great learning and conscientious zeal in everything that might promote its interests as a centre of intellectual thought and culture. Like another great scholar, Professor Seeley, who had also joined the ranks of the great majority, Sir Daniel Wilson believed that it should be among the principal objects of a university "to give coherence, connection, and system to the thinking of the nation; to extend its action over the whole community by creating a vast order of high-class popular teachers, who should lend their aid everywhere in the impartial study of great questions, political or other, and to play a part in the guidance of the national mind such as had never been played by universities in any other country."

No course of studies, continued Dr. Bourinot, was better calculated to profit the student than political science, when it was fully and faithfully carried out. It was one inseparably connected with the vital interests of the whole community. Every man, woman and child had an interest in the efficient administration of government, and in the impartial execution of the laws. These were matters which related immediately to human happiness, and those studies which taught the principles on which all good government should rest, the respective duties, powers, and privileges of the different executive, legislative, and judicial authorities, and the eternal maxims of civil liberty, were studies which, when taught in the spirit of a judicious and honest historian, were well worthy of the name of a science, and should obtain a pre-eminence over all departments of thought and study, except the teachings of the true lessons of Christianity.

Canada presented a very interesting field for the student in this department of study. Though not a national sovereignty like the United States, and therefore probably inferior to it in that respect, as an object of contemplation and reflection for European statesmen, its political history, its fundamental law and constitution, its economic system, its social institutions, and the racial characteristics of its people were worthy of the close study, not only of Canadians, but of all persons who wished to follow the gradual development of communities from a state of cramped colonial pupilage to a larger condition of political freedom, which gave it many of the attributes of an independent nation never before enjoyed by a colonial dependency.

As we looked back for the one hundred and thirty-three years that had passed since the concession of Canada to England we could see that the political development of the provinces now constituting the Dominion was owing

to the passage of certain measures and the acknowledgment of certain principles which stood out as so many political milestones in the path of national progress. Briefly summed up, these measures and principles were as follows:—

The establishment of the principle of religious toleration, which relieved Roman Catholics of disabilities which long afterwards existed in Great Britain.

The establishment of trial by jury and the right of every subject to the protection of the writ of habeas corpus.

The guarantees given to the French-Canadians for the preservation of their civil law and language. The adoption of one system of criminal law in French and in English Canada.

The establishment of representative institutions in every province of Canada.

The independence of the judiciary and its complete isolation from political conflict.

Full provincial control over all local revenues and expenditures.

The initiation of money grants in the people's House.

The right of Canadian Legislatures to manage their purely local affairs without any interference on the part of the English officials in the parent State.

The establishment of municipal institutions and the consequent increase of public spirit in all the local divisions.

The abolition of the seigniorial tenure and the removal of feudal restrictions antagonistic to the conditions of settlement in a new country.

The adoption of the English principle of responsibility to the legislature, under which a Ministry can only retain office while they have the confidence of the people's representatives.

All these valuable privileges were not won in a day, but were the results of the struggles of the people of Canada up to the time of the establishment of the Federal union, which united the provinces on the basis of a central Government, having control of all matters of general or national import, and of several provinces having jurisdiction over such matters of provincial and local concern as were necessary to their existence as distinct political entities within a federation.

In all essential features necessary for the administration of public affairs the Government of Canada was conducted on the well-understood principles of that remarkable system of charters, statutes, conventions and usages to which the general name of the British constitution was given, and which give at once strength and elasticity to the English constitution.

When we reviewed the political and judicial system of the Dominion we could see that there were certain broad principles which, above all others, illustrated in their practical operation the "pre-eminently English" character of our institutions, and which might be briefly summarized as follows:—The supremacy of the law; the influence of the common law; the independence of the judges; the controlling power of the Commons' Houses; the principle of Ministerial responsibility; the permanent tenure of the public service.

A visitor to a Canadian Legislature would see in full operation the old forms and usages of the English House of Commons which existed before the adoption of the closure and other rigid rules, rendered necessary by obstruction, that discreditable feature of modern Parliamentary warfare. Some of the old constitutional usages of England had been considered so important that they had been incorporated in the written constitutional law.

But while we had adopted, to our decided advantage, the important principles of Parliamentary and legal systems of England, we had at the same time been able to rid ourselves of many customs and practices which had not been suitable to the circumstances of Canada.

The municipal system of Canada, especially that of the premier Province of Ontario, had been, even in certain respects, an example for imitation to the parent State, where the complicated and cumbrous system of local administration, which had gone on for centuries, had only quite recently been, as far as practicable, simplified to meet the modern condition of things.

He referred briefly to the problem which Canada had to solve, possessing, as she did, two distinct nationalities, expressed the belief that it was to the English institutions of the Province of Quebec that that Province must continue to owe its prosperity and happiness as an integral part of the Dominion. Under no other system of government, he said, would it be possible to harmonize the antagonistic elements of race, religion, and language which existed in Canada.

In conclusion, he said that Canadians had much to look forward to, if they profited by the best experience of other people, and avoided the quicksands into which indiscreet politicians and dangerous theorists might ever and anon attempt to push Canada.

MOCK PARLIAMENT.

I always attend the Lit. when Mock Parliament is on. Each time I swear to stay at home next week, but Friday night finds me just as surely "whooping it up" for the party or for the fun of it. Last Friday afternoon I took two books from the library (having got there at 8.45 to file for them) with the firm determination to mend my ways, and next morning returned them unopened—perhaps they wouldn't have helped me much on the exam., anyway.

Mock Parliament meetings have a good deal to recommend them. The purely business part is got over in a hurry, and you don't have to take out your watch every little while, as in Prof. —'s lecture, to see how the time is going. At the last meeting the minutes were read and confirmed without objection, the report of the Committee on Constitution, which was presented by Mr. Bray, was adopted without discussion, and the session of Parliament was opened by the President without the formality of a motion, and all in a manner to meet the approval of everyone present with the possible exception of a few most obnoxious constitutional cranks. The members of the Cabinet, with their followers, perhaps twenty in all, took their places at the right of the Speaker, while the supporters of the Opposition, three or four times as numerous, were on the left. It was very much as in former days, except that the Third party, now no longer recognized as capable of conducting the government, had failed to reorganize. Old faces, too, were missed, and the places of the seniors of former days were filled by those who were once our fellow-sophomores and freshmen, and who consequently failed to inspire us with that awe which we once felt. Of the sitting—well, little can be said. I sat pretty close to the Speaker, and managed at intervals to hear a word, if fortunate perhaps two. "The address in reply," was introduced by the Premier, and was moved and seconded by two new members who made a few comments, humorous and otherwise, then sat down conscious of duty

well done. The debaters followed and bravely attempted to do their share. Alternately members of the Opposition and Government rose, moved their jaws, gesticulated wildly and then subsided—why they did all this I don't know; perhaps they enjoyed it. Messrs. Munro, Little, Alexander and Macfarlane opposed the motion, while Messrs. Boulton, Greenwood and Sandwell, assisted by "Bourinot" in two languages, spoke for the Government. We adjourned at 10.30, and as I left the hall with three of the boys, one of them remarked that it was too early to go home. CHICK.

LITERATURE AND NATURE.

It was when the power of Speech came to man that there grew up the power of Thought. Above the environment of the physical world, woven from mind to mind, intermingling times and associations, that strange other Thought-world reared up phantasmally. Perhaps there had been before some dull eye at gaze, learning for itself to see; perhaps there had been at times a solitary flash of the meaning of things into some heart, but it was only a flash. Creation had been; the eternal beauty of the Universe was there, already displayed in its full form and symmetry. Already the stars were glistening by night and the forests sweet with bird music. There was no longer a chaos without. All the phenomena of the world were moving in harmony with the eternal laws. Yet for man the day had not dawned, because Thought had not come. For him the darkness of mystery was hovering still over these unknown things, these things at his hands, below his feet, and in his gaze; there lay the mystery, drifting like a night of storm. But he knew nothing. The world revealed to him in lightning flashes was weird beyond thought. Forms were moving there, vague in outline, their very presence never guessed till then, the question of their Being still unsolved. And here and there the light glimmered, faintly, fitfully.

So flashed and darkened and drifted the long *Walpurgis Nacht*. So the wild dance of the ages reeled away, and the lost beauty of the pristine world faded and passed forever, without a comprehending mind—save One. Such was man, and such his vision before he knew to communicate feeling or to receive another's impression. It was Speech that banished Chaos. The light upon that darkness became more steady, and brighter as the gleam upon a thousand eyes gave one experience to all, and slowly the brooding mystery fell back, and the day remained. Not only had the darkness gone, but the dome-structure of Thought swelled up above us pure, changeless and symmetrical. This was a strange fact. Nothing so evanescent, nothing so frail, yet it stands out at the last, when the material world fails and its changing ages pass, strong and beautiful forever.

When the Egyptian sculptor carved the hieroglyph, literature was begun. If the thought hitherto had been phantom-like, flashing momentarily from mind to mind, now it was crystallized into a form as lasting as the earth itself, and Thought had asserted its eternal powers. The human minds might come and go, the ages drag their dark trail of mortality; it spoke to the centuries one voice. Impulses and ideas, once the most evanescent part of Being, were proving themselves the masterpart, and, when the creature in whom they had been was mere dust once more in the earth, their expression lay in the outline of stone, still speaking as with the voice that spoke no longer.

We shall not follow in detail the evolution of Literature from Cadmus and the Runic forms of expression to the completion of modern time. The strange fact that as each part became meaningless the whole became fraught with a deeper meaning must remain without examination here. Thought had begun in exclamation points; so did its expression. But, as the possibilities of connected and

discursive thinking came, with them advanced the wider literature, with its histories to record the past, poetry for its passion, philosophy for its speculation.

The literature of the world is so common, so much a matter of course, that few, if any, turn from its pages to think what it is, and how shadowy, yet eternal, is its existence.

What is literature? Is it a collection of books? Let me ask of you a task of your imagination. We are told that when someone, who has been confined from the open nature-world, has gone back to the places with which he was once familiar, those things which were so common before as not to be noticed at all are as strange as, even stranger, than other things. The hills were not so rugged in those early days, the road winds with forgotten turns, the garden is too narrow, everything is changed. It is because everything has to be measured by new standards, and many things are thus brought into observation that were never noticed before. In such a way let us imagine we have come again to the old haunts of literature, re-exploring with an eye for the strangeness of the common things, and a perception of those we take to be its axioms. Perhaps the axioms of life are after all its greatest puzzles, and the seat of its darkest mystery.

Here is a mat of thin, white sheets. Around them is stretched the skin of a dead animal, or perhaps the web of plant fibres. There are black marks in certain lines on each sheet within—nothing more. This is a book! Yet look at those black ink marks again. Unconsciously your eye follows from symbol to symbol. I see you forget what it is you hold, the plant fibre and matting. For a spell is falling over you from those cabalistic signs, the white page contains ink marks no longer, but it has turned to a splendid picture, human voices are in your ears speaking from silence, you feel the presence of other spirits with your own. Is there magic in these modern days? The mystery of the books is the strangest thing we have, and yet it lies not in them but in us. It is along the mysterious lines of the spirit life that we find the solution to it all.

Then books are more than mere material; they are presences of Thought. And how they sport with Time and Space! The lights are thrown across the shifting ages. We can hear the English skylark in twilight heaven, and watch the conquering Roman legions shout the wild pæan of victory. We can wander with Jason into those silent, undiscovered seas, or stand in the roar of modern London. Here is Fingal among his northern warriors; there is the sublimity of Shakespeare. Dynasties of forgotten states dance out for a moment in their long gibbering line. A phantom Troy glimmers on the desolate Asian hills. These are the ivory keys—pass your finger-tips along and in revelations of life and truth the answer comes from that mysterious, silent, outer world into the silent mystery of a living mind.

There can be no boundary here. It is the Infinite and the Eternal. Time cannot hold us. We may be 3,000 years old, or even older. Away far "out of Time and out of Space" we watch the stars whirl out of their red cloud-vapors and the universe unroll and spread its glittering frame. Chaos is ended, earth begun. Listen with Milton or Goethe and you hear the jubilation of the angelic choirs, see glimpses of that light whose beauty pervades the universe. A flash, and all is over! The stars grow dim, the cold, gray twilight of creation falls from world to world, drifts from sun to sun. The shadows deepen—darkness covers all, and the dead orbs are whirling into the eternal night.

This is Literature, and this is the range of a scholar's vision. From such a one should we not expect great things? and yet, strange as it may seem, we find that his mind is not always cultivated in wisdom, nor has that harmonious development which bestows the greatest

power. Many a scholar with an experience as wide as history, and a knowledge of the most intricate questions of thought, mistakes the true object of life, and lives as far from the ideal as those in the more simple walks of life. For learning is not culture nor wisdom.

The greatest man in the world, the one whose influence will extend farthest on the long future years of history, is the man, be he learned or unlearned in the classics of our race, whose life is at one with nature.

Do not let the recluse imagine that he has the only way of studying that exists. So long as he studies man and the mysteries of his environment by researches in the archives of the Past, follows his history with the aim before him of a more thorough understanding of himself and his fellows, works in the past for the present—so long as he works with that end in view he is doing his duty and accomplishing the highest good. But let the scholar never despise one who has not looked down the ages to learn from the experiences of history. Just as there was at first for the first thinker of the primal age, so now there must be other means of culture, other ways of getting into the heart of things than by living in the dust of a classic past.

Turn from the pages of your book to-night as the twilight closes in and the shadows steal around the room, spare a moment before the lamp is lighted, and look out at the sunset. What is that to you? Is it a gray, western cloud with red daubed on it like some sorry attempt at a 5 cent chromo? Are you thinking, while you look away into that infinite expanse of a forgotten tense of some forgotten verb in a forgotten language? Now you can test yourself, how much harmony there is between you and the rest of nature, for if you cannot *feel* the beauty of that sunset, *feel* the solemn power that is shut behind those flood-gates of the day—and the deep of the universe asleep beyond—if you cannot *feel that* in your heart, the dust of the past has obscured your view and narrowed the powers of your soul's expansion.

There can be gained from classical literary study much of great benefit by a widening of the knowledge of human actions in different times and under different circumstances. If as the student reads he sees unfold before him the changing arena where the heroes of old time are in actual life, if he follows their doings mindful of the sources of action in ourselves, if he sees them transferred into the present by the power of thought, by every experience of the man he contemplates, he adds to his own. For him there is less to say. But yet he is widening his vision by one method; there are others left. Should he be content with those truths that other minds have drawn from a source that still lies open? Should he be satisfied merely with applying and realizing these truths? Beyond, around, within him lie the same eternally inexhaustible fields from which Homer, Dante, Shakespeare drew, and from which the future Homers and the future Shakespeares must draw.

And now with all the widened scope of knowledge drawn from such study, you cannot create one single idea, give to the world one single thought which shall "shine as a star forever in the firmament of life," except by the establishment of a harmony between your soul and the oversoul of Nature, a condition to which everyone can attain, but the scholar, by his broadened capacity and greater ability to receive, it will baptize with a greater measure of power. With this thought before us it would be well to think twice before casting contempt on those in the ordinary walks of life, who have never had the opportunity of studying things beyond the scope of personal experience, while we may be privileged to scour the universe. But let us not pause through sympathy for an inferior type, pause because we may meet someone there who is wiser and therefore knows more than we, who has reached unassisted into the heart of things, it may be in part blindly, but effectively.

JAMES T. SHOTWELL.

THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DINNER.

The first Annual Dinner of the President, Faculty, and Undergraduates of University College was held last night in the Gymnasium Building, and was a gratifying and brilliant success from beginning to end. The students turned out well, as tickets were bought up rapidly all day yesterday. The committee are to be congratulated upon the happy outcome to their inauguration of the first College dinner. At eight o'clock the vast assemblage sat down to do justice to the daintiest viands which Harry Webb could furnish. Covers were laid for 200 on three long tables running the length of the great hall, with a cross table at the eastern end for the distinguished guests of the evening. A number of ladies attended in the gallery.

The following were the committee, to whom the success of the affair is due. President: Pres. Loudon; First Vice-President, J. L. Counsell, '97; Second Vice-President, H. Boulton, '97; Third Vice-President, J. T. Inkster, '98; Secretary, W. H. Greenwood, '97; Treasurer, F. H. Barron, '97; Councillors, F. A. Cleland, '98; W. G. Fitzgerald, '98; W. A. Sadlier, '99; F. H. Smith, '99; and J. Kay, 1900.

Those who were invited: His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada, Sir Casimir Gzowski, Hon. Wilfrid Laurier, Premier of Canada; Hon. Geo. E. Foster, Hon. A. S. Hardy, Premier of Ontario; J. P. Whitney, M.P.P., leader of the Opposition; Hon. G. W. Ross, Minister of Education; Hon. Mr. Mulock, Postmaster-General; Dr. John Hoskin, Q.C., Dr. Harper, President of the Chicago University; Dr. Patton, President of Princeton University; Dr. Schurmann, Principal of Cornell University; Dr. Angel, President of Ann Arbor University; Prof. W. J. Ashley, M.A., of Harvard University; Dr. Peterson, President of McGill University; Dr. G. M. Grant, Principal of Queen's University; The Father Superior of Ottawa College, Ottawa; Dr. Welch, Provost of Trinity University; Chancellor Burwash, of Victoria University; Chancellor Wallace, of McMaster University; Rev. J. R. Teefy, M.A., Superior of St. Michael's College; Rev. W. Caven, D.D., Principal of Knox College; Rev. J. P. Sheraton, M.A., D.D., Principal of Wycliffe College; Dr. Galbraith, Principal of S. P. S.; Dr. Reeve, Toronto Medical Faculty; Provost Watkins, of the Western University, London, Ont.; Dr. Parkin,

Representatives from sister colleges—Osgoode, Mr. R. E. Gagen; Dents., Mr. G. G. Hume; Wycliffe, Mr. McNamara; Tor. Meds.—J. H. Elliott; S. P. S., G. E. Stacey; McGill, Mr. H. Kerr; Queen's, Andy Morrison.

The following is an incomplete list of the members of the Faculty of the University who attended: Pres. Loudon, Professors Hutton, Baker, Wright, McCallum, Van der Smissen, McCurdy, Hume, Squair, Mavor, Wrong, Fletcher, Fraser, Milne, Robertson, Dr. Smale, Dr. Miller, Dr. Coleman, Dr. Needler, Messrs. Keys, Cameron, Caruthers, Jeffrey, W. J. Loudon, McLay (McMaster), Rusk, McLennan, Moore, Gould, Barr, Mr. Maclean, M.P., of the *World*, Mr. Willison, of the *Globe*, and Mr. Bunting, of the *Mail*, also attended. We are unable to give a list of the students

The students took fully two hours to do ample justice to the good things of the menu card; and about 10 o'clock, through wreaths of smoke, the President called upon Prof. Fletcher, who read letters of regret at their inability to attend, from the Governor-General, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Prof. Goldwin Smith, LL.D., Rev. Dr. Sheraton, of Wycliffe, Sir Casimir Gzowski, Provost Welch, Pres. Harper, of Chicago, Pres. Patton, of Princeton, and others.

Then Pres. Loudon, the chairman of the dinner, proposed the toast of the Queen in flattering and enthusiastic

terms. He quoted the famous words of Thomas Carlyle, referring to the great task undertaken by so young a sovereign, on her ascending the throne. He spoke of the loyalty to the Queen and to the Empire manifested at all times by the undergraduates and alumni of the University. The toast was enthusiastically received by singing of the National Anthem. Professor Hutton proposed the toast to "Canada, our Country." He humorously remarked that patriotism was the best refuge of the after-dinner speaker, and that there was a time when it went hand in hand on the curriculum with temperance and agriculture. He referred, in glowing terms, to the University as a type of Canada, where every man was judged by what he is and not by what he has. The University mediated between knowledge and democracy, and prevented both from becoming supercilious.

Mr. W. F. Maclean, of the *World*, responded to this toast, and apologized for not having the eloquence to reply to so important a toast. But one thing was certain—that we were on this continent to stay. Our position here was assured, and our unification was becoming strengthened. He also spoke of the similarity between the University and the national life. The local government, he said, should endow the State University. If it had a strong mining policy we might have our Canadian Rockefellers and Stanfords ultimately. He was glad to see so many of the graduates of this year, seven, occupying prominent positions on the Faculty staff.

Dr. Parkin, of Upper Canada College, followed, and was greeted with a rousing reception from the "old boys." He was gratified with their maintenance of college spirit, and with the opportunities so seldom offered for such pleasant reunions. Canadians had much to reflect upon, and the young men must become in time the controlling forces of this country. After all his travels he always returned to Canada with great feelings of pride, when he compared his native country with others. He found no such material in Australia, for the development of strong and influential men as he recognized here. Canada was the place to make men, though Australia was the place to make money. But men would draw money to them. This was a critical period in Canada in reference to her political system. We had not the class distinctions of the old country, nor the wild democracy of others. The hope of Canada was in keeping her mental poise and intellectual position. We had much to learn from Italy, Greece, England and France, and should not be self-satisfied as in refinement in art, and even in learning, we lagged behind. He encouraged the young men to go abroad and call the best which was afforded by foreign lands. He directed the young men to pay more attention to the manners, refinements and forms of older countries in all respects, and we would become a great power in the world. We are the premier colony in the British Empire, and were the cynosure of every eye in the world. We had enormous responsibilities morally, and he appealed to the young men to be individually strong in moral qualities, as rigid as the Scotch, and to lift the heart of the world higher. With eloquence and strength he closed a powerful speech.

At this juncture Mr. W. S. MacKay, president of the Glee Club, accompanied by Glionna's orchestra, favored the assemblage with a solo.

Prof. McCurdy proposed the toast of the Local Legislature and referred to the opportunity.

We were ahead of other countries in the way we had achieved state control of our University. We had reason to be proud of the record and career of our undergraduates in the Local Legislature. The Minister of Education had reason to be proud of the growth of our University—in the increase of our numbers and the magnificence of her buildings. He emphasized the need of a post-graduate course and a better equipped library, without which no great

academic advancement could be made. He coupled with the toast the name of Hon. G. W. Ross, LL.D., of Toronto University. The honorable gentleman was received with the singing of "For he's a Jolly Good Fellow." It was the duty, he said, of the Local Legislature to foster his "Alma Mater" and all other educational institutions of the Province. He referred to the prosperity of the secondary schools as evidenced by the fact that now and then the University captured one of the older teachers as lecturers or professors. He congratulated Mr. Maclean on anticipating the policy of the Local Government. It was pleasing that the University was not ungrateful for what was done for her advancement by the Government. The number of the faculty had been doubled and the number of the students trebled in twenty years. The Legislature expected the University in return to foster a high standard of scholarship. It was so far doing its work well. So long as this continues the University will contribute much to direct and control the destiny of the Dominion.

Walter H. Robinson then rendered, with fine effect, a solo, which was enthusiastically encored.

Mr. A. B. Watt, in eloquent terms, proposed the toast of "Alma Mater." The fervent devotion of her undergraduates testifies her ability to impart a broad and vigorous culture. The University had grown up with the country, and had always remained in touch with her best interests, and in the Fenian Raid had sent forth a company to defend her territory. The undergraduates should labor with a twofold aim, to widen her influence and become one of her distinguished sons.

The President replied briefly to this toast, and was followed by John G. Inkster. He was not the father nor yet the mother of the University, but a son and the representative of the daughters. John was humorous and advised the Faculty that they should "spare the sups. and not spoil the sports." Becoming serious, he advocated the cultivation of a strong University spirit and pointed out many ways in which this would conduce to the honor and glory of the undergraduates and of the University to which they belonged.

Prof. Alexander, in proposing the toast of "Sister Universities," made pleasing reference to the kindly rivalry between McGill and Toronto.

Dr. Peterson, of McGill, replied. He gave us the intimation that McGill was all right. He reciprocated the kindly feelings which Toronto always cherished for McGill. He was glad of the solidarity of interests which prevailed among universities of this and other countries.

Provost Watkins, of Western University, followed. In his short speech he expressed his pleasure at the recognition of this young university. It was a great tribute to Toronto that two of her distinguished graduates occupied positions on the staff of the Western University. Chancellor Burwash, of Victoria, also responded to this toast, and spoke feelingly of the friendly relations which had existed always between the federated Colleges.

Mr. W. D. Love gave a solo, and to an encore sang "The Whistling Girl." The toast of University Societies was proposed by Mr. J. C. McLennan, and responded to by Don Ross, '98, T. J. McNeece, '97, and G. C. Selby, '97, each of whom delivered themselves of brilliant speeches.

Mr. A. F. Barr, B.A., proposed the toast of Athletics in an appreciable manner, and was responded to by J. L. Counsell and Mr. T. Gibson. Both of these gentlemen excelled as after-dinner speakers.

Mr. B. K. Sandwell, '97, proposed the toast of The Press, which was responded to by Mr. Cecil H. Clegg.

"The Ladies" was proposed by Mr. Mitchell, and responded to eloquently by Mr. James Little.

This brought the happy gathering to a close. Some of the students, loth to go, remained, and entertained the

representatives from the Colleges in sleepy songs and weary stories. Veritably it was a great night, with great guns, great grub and great gab.

STRANGE!

'Tis worthy the note of all.
—A strange and marv'ous thing—
Our "freshettes" come in the fall,
Instead of in the spring.

STUDENTS' SOCIETIES.

PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

The Philosophical Society held a regular meeting on Friday last. Mr. T. H. Robinson, B.A., read an interesting paper on the "Metaphysical Proof of God," which was ably discussed by Prof. Kirschmann.

At the next meeting to be held in the Students' Union, on Friday, 11th inst., at 4 p.m., Prof. Alexander will give an address on "Some Principles of Aesthetics and their application to Literature." A cordial invitation is extended to all students and their friends.

MODERN LANGUAGE CLUB.

The last regular meeting for the Michaelmas Term was held on Monday in room 4. The papers read were of a high order, and the whole meeting made a creditable finish to a very successful term's work. The programme was as follows: Wm. Morris, H. J. O'Higgins; Matthew Arnold, J. T. Shotwell; Swinburne, Miss Mills. Prof. Mavor delighted the audience with personal reminiscences of William Morris. It is probable that the Public Lecture announced for December 14th, will be held on Saturday, December 12th, in the Biological Building. Further notice will be given elsewhere. The subject of the lecture is "Mediaeval Life in Germany," and Prof. Vander Smissen's well-founded reputation for the treatment of such subjects is sure to give him a large audience. Those desiring to hear this treat should come early.

VARSAITY GLEE CLUB.

The Glee Club are holding their few final practices this week for their Concert next Friday evening in the Massey Hall, which they confidently expect will be a record breaker. The boys have got their music in splendid shape, and undoubtedly will shed additional lustre on their already great musical reputation. The Banjo and Guitar Club have especially catchy music this year, which will appeal very strongly to their friends in the top gallery. Their new descriptive piece, imitating plantation life, is said to far eclipse all former compositions of this kind, will be played by the combined Banjo, Guitar, and Mandolin Clubs. The Concert is under the distinguished patronage of Sir Casimir Gzowski, Administrator, and Mrs. Kirkpatrick, besides that of several well-known society ladies, and will as usual be one of the society events of the season. It is hoped also that the students will turn out in large numbers to show their appreciation of the efforts of the boys to make this organization the leading College Glee Club in America, and to spread abroad the musical fame of our Alma Mater.

From the first, the attendance and enthusiasm at the Mulock Cup series has been unusually large. The games in the first round, at least, were not of a very high class, but a marked improvement can be seen in those played lately.

The Varsity

TORONTO, December 9th, 1896.

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IN an unscrupulous yet vain attempt to regale its readers with something flavoring of the sensational, the *Evening Star* recently published a garbled account of the proceedings at the last meeting of the Woman's Literary Society. We would be content with merely pointing out that the article in question was not only indiscreet and immodest in tone, but also in many respects exaggerated and in some respects false in point of fact, could we reconcile ourselves to overlook the outrage upon personal friendship and social conventionalities committed by the writer. It is one of the great misfortunes of journalism that papers like the *Star* will keep upon their staff members skilled in all the arts of deception, without the slightest appreciation of social propriety, but with a vulgar pretence of wisdom and a facility for words.

The *Star* would have the public suppose that the article was written by a representative, who attended in disguise, but the representative is not to be credited even with this much cleverness. The fact of the matter is, and the public ought to know this, that he did not attend in person but obtained his information by hearsay. He happened to have ingratiated himself into the friendship and good-will of some of the members who were discussing the programme of the evening privately. Immediately he got the conceit of a "scoop" into his head, and in the idea that he might accomplish something grand his common sense evaporated. The meagre particulars he had obtained he filled out with his own "idle imaginings," and ran home to dream that when he awoke Monday morning he would find himself famous. It seems never to have occurred to this young upstart that his conduct was a violation of faith, or that it would lead to a severe reflection upon those whose company and confidence he neither hesitated to enjoy nor scrupled to betray. It seems never to have dawned upon him that deception is bad, but that when it is blended with wilful misrepresentation it is infinitely

worse. Deceit is one of the worst traits of human character, and those who are unfortunate enough to find it practised by their friends should spurn them as they would a man tainted with a deadly infectious disease. The article we have referred to is unworthy of the *Star*, and is about the most impudent manifestation of ignorance and bad-breeding that has come under our notice.

* *

It is not to be supposed that the women undergraduates preserve the same dignity and decorum when they meet at the Literary Society, as they do in the "lecture rooms, the college halls or at receptions." It is not to be supposed either that a farce can be presented by First Year students of a University, with such seriousness and success as press reporters may see when they occupy free seats at a down-town opera house. The girls may not know how to escape incongruous features in the make-up of a stage character, and could doubtless receive with profit some pointers about the dressing of a stage. But these are not things which it is incumbent upon them to know. They are obliged to know, however, and most of them do know, how to avoid incongruities and correct deficiencies in their own characters, and we are thankful that they have reached considerable perfection in the art of dressing themselves. This is about the first time that the women undergraduates have been held up to public ridicule, but there is scarcely a paper in this city that, in the attempt to pander to the popular opinion, has not had its fling at University students in general. The strange thing about it is that they are seldom portrayed when they are quietly engaged at their work, but the pictures exhibited to the public are generally "snap-shots," taken when they are off duty. Insignificant as these may seem, they have a most mischievous effect and prejudice the popular mind against the students. The attacks made upon the men describe them either as an indolent set of rowdies, at their best when in pursuit of a football, or as long haired and unpractical specimens of attenuated humanity like bum actors out of a job. To incite further that contempt of the people which is freely accorded all men who do not live by the sweat of their own brow, they are said to be spending other people's money in "educating themselves to be gentlemen."

* *

We have been plagued to death with these periodical misrepresentations and false accusations, as with a festering sore. We have not exactly held the undergraduate as a species under a glass, but we have had the experience of an association with undergraduates now extending into its fourth year. We have mingled freely with them in every form of their society. We have caught them in their more serious moods and known them in moods of lighter vein. We have seen them at study, at play, and at work in the sense of toil. It may not appear presumption on our part in undertaking to vindicate their character and set it right with the public. We may say that we never yet ran across any one who was taking a University education for the glory of the thing, but because it was recognized to be a good way of acquiring a necessary equipment for a useful and successful life. But a University career may, and has, spoiled young men

who did not know enough to discriminate between things transient or ephemeral and things permanent or enduring, and who would have been spoiled in any case. We have never seen a student win the esteem of his fellow-students by a reputation for indolence, or by his fame as a football player alone. This is because a man must be well-balanced to meet the approval of the students. To be appreciated he must have some stronger recommendation. It matters not in what form, but intellectual ability must manifest itself somehow. We are at a loss to understand why the practice of wearing their hair long should excite the animosity of the press against the students. Personal appearance, and not society, generally prescribes whether men shall wear their beards long or short, or whether they shall wear beards at all or not. University students should be allowed the same arbiter to decide the manner of wearing their hair.

The statement that students are spending other people's money is only partly true. For a large proportion of students earn or have earned their own money or most of it, and are self-dependent. They may often find themselves in the inconvenient position of being "strapped," but this is no obstacle in the way of their success. Occasionally one forgets that it is prosperity and not adversity that ruins men, and, rather than undergo privation, relinquishes the idea of completing one's course. But the most of them have sand enough in them to "stay with the job," in the belief that they are making a paying investment by spending their money to get a liberal education. We could easily stand to have more money invested in this way. It would be much better for humanity if that part of the world's wealth which is annually invested in horse flesh were invested in the improvement and development of the human intellect.

It is a sad reproach upon the morals and manners of Canadian communities if it is true that the money spent on a University education is spent in educating young men to become gentlemen. We had expected this part of their education to have been acquired at home, and we believe it generally is, and that where it has not been obtained there, it is rarely got by a University training. For we have both gentlemen and educated persons in our acquaintance, and a number of the gentlemen are not educated and a number of the educated persons are not gentlemen.

With these remarks, according to a well-established precedent, the present editor ends his editorial duties. We have been impressed more than ever, during our term of office, by the fertility and resource of the student mind. We have enjoyed immensely the close relationship with the students and hope to profit greatly thereby. To our successor we hope to see given the same sympathy, encouragement and assistance which has been granted to us; and to the undergraduates, one and all, we extend, with the compliments of the season, the hope of an honorable, a prosperous, and a distinguished career.

The theory that a subject when hypnotized has lost all powers of reason, was proved to be absolutely false last Wednesday evening when the subject showed such excellent taste and discrimination in presenting his bouquet.

LETTERS.

To the Editor of VARSITY:

DEAR SIR,—In view of the approaching concert of the Glee Club next Friday night and recognizing the fact that there will be a large attendance of students, may I be permitted, as conductor of the club, to respectfully offer a suggestion. To my mind the audience that attends this annual event comes for two principal reasons, viz.:—to hear the programme and to listen to the students in the top gallery. But the difficulty is that they hear them both at the same time, and so do not enjoy the concert as much as they otherwise would. Now, I would suggest to the students in the audience that while any number is being given from the platform that they preserve order, but between numbers indulge their own musical tastes as they like. I hope this suggestion will be taken in the kindly spirit that is intended. Thanking you for your valuable space.

Yours truly,

WALTER H. ROBINSON.

* * *

To the Editor of VARSITY:

DEAR SIR,—In reply to the letter which appeared in your columns last week from "One of The Boys," I wish to say that the suggestion has been discussed by the Musical Committee of the Glee Club, and has, to a certain extent, appeared feasible. Of course at this late date it would be impossible to entirely disarrange our programme, and give songs out of the old song book, as encores to all our numbers, but two or three of these could be sung, and if this idea commends itself to the students at large, the arrangement can be definitely fixed. The Club will practise at the Massey Hall on Thursday afternoon, at 4.30, and on Friday morning at 10. It is requested that all students who are interested be present, and practise the College songs that have been selected. Needless to say, the club will not think of entering into any such arrangement unless after a combined practice, but if this is attended to, they are quite willing to give the experiment a trial.

Yours truly,

J. L. R. PARSONS,

Sec'y Glee Club.

QUESTION DRAWER.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

BIFF, S.P.S.—You can obtain drawing materials, ink, pencils, rubbers, etc., at the Art Metropole, 141 Yonge Street.

CIRCLE.—You need not feel abashed over your slip in grammar. We have known several* fourth year men to lapse into solecisms occasionally.

INNAMORATO.—Many thanks for the photograph that you have submitted for our inspection. We agree with you that she is charming; so much so, in fact, that we have determined to keep the photo, and have duly installed it upon our dressing-case.

L. AND S. COLLECTOR.—Three studs in the shirt front will be sufficient for the occasion you mention. A yellow, blue and white necktie will be most appropriate, but will be out of sight if you wear your napkin as usual. On this occasion we would advise you to wear it a little lower, placing the two upper corners in the lower vest pockets.

I. C. U. R. A. J.—No, there is no University lecturer in that subject, but many of the students study under Prof. Davis. (You will find his ad. in the VARSITY columns.) Before starting to study the subject it would be well for you to master the principles of sliding friction, centre of gravity, momentum, rythm and curvilinear geometry. If you apply yourself we think you could get a fair knowledge of the subject by the time of the Conversat.

THE INTER-YEAR RUGBY CONTESTS.

For the past week a lively interest has been manifest in the various matches which have been played in competition for the Mulock Cup. With the final game in the series, football takes its departure again for another year. On Monday the Freshmen Class met the Sophomores, to meet defeat by the score of 27—12. The same day the two upper years of the Medical School succeeded in defeating their juniors, the two lower, after a hard fought game, ending 8—6. On Tuesday '97 defeated '98 by 22—12, and the Dentals won from Knox by 21—1. This ended the first round, so that next day when the School of Science, which obtained the bye, met the Senior Meds., a large crowd assembled, expecting to see more hotly contested matches as the series went on. In this case they were not disappointed. For a large part of the game the men from the direction of the Don held the lead, but a try in time brought the victory to their opponents by 10—6. The S. P. S. team included players of such prominence as Boyd, Morrison and Perry, while the Meds had Campbell and White.

On Thursday afternoon a great surprise took place. The Senior Arts Team was supposed to be particularly strong, certainly the strongest in the College, and judging from their showing of last year, and the presence among them of such men as Counsell, Jackson, Barron, Sellery, Bradley, Scott and Dodds, of the first and second teams, seemed to almost assure them of the ultimate possession of the cup. However, when the '99 team was met, the latter, well balanced at every point, were able to defeat them by 7—1. For the winners Armour, Gooderham and Mullin played well, while the brilliant work, both offensive and defensive, of the whole back division, McMordie, Cameron, Waldie, Benson and Ross, practically won the game.

LACROSSE.

INTER-COLLEGE LACROSSE LEAGUE.

An inter-college lacrosse association is one of the possibilities of next spring. As at present defined it will consist of Varsity, Osgoode Hall and McGill, but other colleges may be induced to enter teams, and in time there is every prospect that it will assume to as much importance as the Football Association. The matter was broached at the annual meeting of the Varsity Lacrosse Club, Friday, in the Gymnasium, and received the enthusiastic endorsement of all the members. That Osgoode Hall is favorable to the project is evident, as the suggestion emanated from Mr. C. Cross, who will play with the legalites next year, as will Courtney Kingston, Charlie Moss and Ernie Burns.

There was a good turn-out at the meeting and an excellent list of officers was elected. They are: Hon. President, W. J. Loudon, B.A.; President, Captain A. F. Barr, B.A.; Vice-President, C. G. Bryan, B.A.; Captain, W. A. MacKinnon; Committee, Messrs. F. A. Cleland, A. E. Snell, G. Cooper and W. Morrison. It was decided to defer the election of a manager.

At the close of the meeting the captain elect said a few words regarding the prospects for next season, regretting the loss of men still eligible for the team, who will owe their services to Osgoode's new club; but expressing the hope that the many players who are attending Varsity for the first time will make up a team which will keep unbroken the long succession of victories for the blue and white.

M. Auguste Van Beine, the great 'cellist, will appear at the Grand Opera House next week in his musical drama, "The Broken Melody." Speaking of the famous 'cellist and his play, a London journal says: "The strains of 'The Broken Melody' were heard for the first time within the walls of the Grand Theatre last evening.

That they touched a tender chord and awakened a responsive echo was at once apparent. It tells a tale of woman's intrigue—the cause, the love of a man devotedly attached to his wife; the effect, their separation. In style it now and then suggests Sardou. There are few 'cello players in the world, who can equal—certainly none to out-rival—his claims to rank as a great instrumentalist."

TORONTO MEDICAL DINNER.

The Medical Faculty and Medicos held their tenth annual dinner at the Rossin House on Wednesday evening last. An illustrious gathering sat down to partake of the good things provided about 9 o'clock. The number in attendance was so large that the members of the Dinner Committee had to accommodate themselves in an ante-room adjoining the main dining hall. The menu-card, besides containing the items of an exquisite bill of fare, also was profusely decorated with local sketches and apt quotations. Everything had a "saw-bone" flavor, which was novel and interesting to an Arts man. Some of those present were: Sir W. R. Meredith, President Loudon, Dr. Parkin, Dr. J. H. Cameron, Dr. McPherson, Dr. Primrose, Dr. Peters, Dr. Reeve, Dr. Dwyer, Dr. O'Reilly, Profs. Baker, McCallum, Richardson, Ross, and many other disciples of Escupalius. The president of the dinner was A. J. MacNamara, '97, who occupied his position with becoming dignity and efficiency.

A great many of 4th year Arts men were present also, as there are a number taking their first year in medicine along with their final year. We noticed C. A. Campbell, J. L. R. Parsons, W. H. Graham, C. Currie. W. A. MacKinnon and Secretary Jackson represented the Athletic Association, and Cecil H. Clegg, the Varsity. J. W. Baird, '97, represented Victoria.

The toast of the University of Toronto was responded to by President Loudon and Prof. Reynor (Victoria). Mr. W. S. Mackay, president of the Glee Club, rendered a few pleasing solos, which broke the monotony of the numerous speeches.

In response to the toast of the Faculty, Dr. J. H. Cameron and Professor McCallum made two of the happiest speeches of the evening, though the listeners had decreased considerably in number on account of the lateness of the hour.

Mr. J. W. Baird was one of the speakers to reply to Sister Institutions. There were representatives from Osgoode, Dentals, Pharmacy, McGill Medical College and Bishops College. Of these, Osgoode sent the best speaker in the person of J. W. Barnum, '94, for Osgoode. Mr. J. H. Jackson replied to the toast of Athletics and C. H. Clegg to the toast of the Press. The affair ended about 4 a.m.



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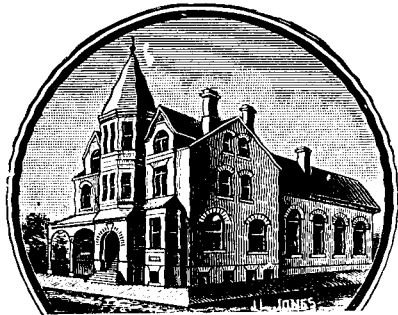
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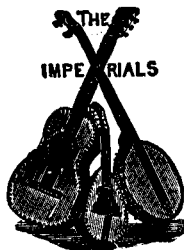
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THE LADIES' GLEE CLUB CONCERT.

It was a decidedly unlucky move on the part of the men to divorce the women from their Glee Club. The event has had a result which was very easy to anticipate, very hard to prevent, and will be very much harder to combat. Instead of "wearing the willow" in privacy and seclusion, the women have rejoiced at their return to a state, veritably, of "single blessedness." No longer allowed to be the helpmeet and companions of the men, they have dared to become their rivals. With what success may be judged from the attendance and the reception accorded them at their first annual concert on Thursday last. We doubt very much if the indications of prosperity have been so favorable for any organization around the University, as were those at their first public appearance. We came a little late, but upon representing to one of the obliging girl censors that we were going to report for VARSITY, we were directed to a delightful seat in the "gods," where the male students, led by a Residence faction, were already in possession, and from this position of eminence we were enabled to see and hear everything that transpired during the evening. A bevy of sweet girls from the Presbyterian Ladies' College occupied seats in the east end of the hall, and drew down upon themselves the frequent salutations of admiration, mingled with their own college yell of the "gods."

The platform on which the members of the Glee Club sat arrayed in pretty garments of black and white, with bright ribbons showing here and there, was decorated with blue and white, and was very pleasing in appearance. A sparkle of excitement was always to be expected in the event of one of those sitting on either end tumbling off, but fortunately this did not occur. The choruses by the club were exceedingly well rendered. The volume of sound and sweetness of expression was delightful. The best number given was the March song by Becher, which elicited an enthusiastic encore. The assistance of the Mendelssohn Trio, refreshing as a variety, contributed much to the enjoyment of the occasion. The solos given by Mrs. Lee were equally good, and the solos on the 'cello by Miss Massie were delightful. The audience in the "gods" were captivated by the appearance and the smiles of Mrs. Adele Strauss Youngheart, who wore a gown of soft blue with white lace trimmings. She was instructed to sing "Au Revoir but Not Good-bye," but declined with a bow. Miss Mabel de Geer was heard to fine advantage in her encore to her solo "For all Eternity," as well as in her duet with Mr. Walter H. Robinson, which was the best number of the evening. Mr. C. Frank King received a well-merited encore to "Trankadillo."

The accompanist for the Glee Club was Miss Rosentadt, who deserves great praise for the manner in which

she performed her exacting duties. Mrs. Fred Lee acted in the same capacity for the Trio and with equal success. A great deal of the credit belongs to Mr. Walter H. Robinson, the talented conductor of the Club, for the brilliant success of its first concert.

NEW BOOKS IN LIBRARY SINCE OCT. 22, 1896.

Dickenson, Emily—Poems, 1st and 2nd series. Presented by H. H. Langton, Esq.

Flint, R.—Theism, Baird Lecture for 1876. Published by Blackwood.

Gow, James—Companion to School Classes. Published by Macmillan.

Helprecht, (Ed.)—University of Pennsylvania Babylonian Expedition, Ser. A. Cuneiform Texts. Published in Trans. Amer. Philos. Society.

Hubert, P. G.—Inventors. Published by Scribners. Markow—Russische Chrestomathie. Presented by H. H. Langton, Esq.

Martineau, J.—A Study of Spinoza. Published by Macmillan.

Muller, Max von—Asien und Europa. Published by Engelmann.

McAulay, A.—Utility of Quaternions in Physics. Published by Macmillan.

McCaig, D.—Milestone Moods and Memories. Presented by H. H. Langton, Esq.

Pushkin, A. S.—Complete Works, Vol. 4. Presented by H. H. Langton, Esq.

Prowse, O. W.—History of Newfoundland, (Macmillan). The Author.

Riola, H.—Graduated Russian Reader (Kegan Paul). Presented by H. H. Langton.

Riola, H.—How to Learn Russian (Kegan Paul). Presented by H. H. Langton.

Runeberg, J. L.—Faurik Stals Sagner. Presented by H. H. Langton

Sidgwick, H.—Methods of Ethics. Published by Macmillan.

Siepmann, Otto—Public School German Primer. Presented by Copp, Clark Co.

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Sophomore's logic (up to date)—Some men buy tickets, but don't intend going to the dinner. Some men intend going to the dinner, but don't buy tickets.
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Don't forget the Glee Club concert on Friday night.

The Xmas number of VARSITY will appear next week, illustrated and enlarged.

The Athletic Association will have a rink this winter at thenorth-west end of the campus.

Mr. Lyman Brown has been appointed Classical Master in the Leamington High School.

As a result of a recent decision of the Supreme Court, the University of Colorado has come in for \$20,000.

In the Departmental Library in the Parliament Buildings there can always be found half a dozen Arts men reading.

The Editorial Board will meet on Thursday, at 5 p.m., for the purpose of electing the Editor for the second term.

Last Friday night was a night of collegiate celebration. Jarvis Collegiate entertained, the School of Science

dined, Knox College debated, and Victoria conversated.

We regret to learn that Miss F. E. Kirkwood, '98, of the Business Board, has been compelled to give up her work for this term and return home on account of ill health.

Mrs (Prof.) Fraser held an At-Home on Friday afternoon last from 5 to 7, and gave a large number of the students the opportunity of meeting the members of the Y. W. C. A.

A west-end tonsorialist complains that there were in his parlors last week, at one time, two ex-mayors of Toronto, and no less than three members of VARSITY Editorial and Business Boards. Cheer up, good friend; remember "Some have greatness thrust upon them," when they will advertise in VARSITY.

The sale of periodicals took place last Wednesday in the Reading Room. Don. Ross manipulated the hammer, and Fides Nicol held the slate. Every two or three minutes the hammer came down with "c'est bien vu; bien attendu; adjugez," and some unfortunate bought in a magazine for 15 or 20 cents beyond the regular price.

The Seniors of University College and Victoria held a union reception on Saturday evening last from 7 to 10, in Victoria College. The Chancellor and Mrs. Burwash were present. At 8.30 guests were still winding their way up to the college, but on arriving found

all the programmes had long since been appropriated and some fifty or sixty stragglers were compelled to make a card serve this purpose. All the people we know, and a lot we did not know, were there to indulge in the enjoyment of the occasion. Victoria's large hall proved a delightful place for promenading, and the numerous class rooms, which were thrown open, served equally well for sitting out. The refreshment room was opened about 8.30, and things were made somewhat uncomfortable and unedifying by the unanimous wish of the assemblage to sit down together. But as all were bent on enjoying themselves, a little discomfort of this kind did not cause much serious inconvenience. The joint committees are to be congratulated upon the success of the affair, and are extended the suggestion to hold their next reception in the Pavilion.

Shorthand Simplified

The class advertised commenced on November 24th, and meets twice a week in Room 7, University. Letters written by students after the first lesson were opened at the second and read out as rapidly as if written in longhand. It is intended to commence a second course shortly after New Year's. One or two private pupils can be received: \$10 for private course.

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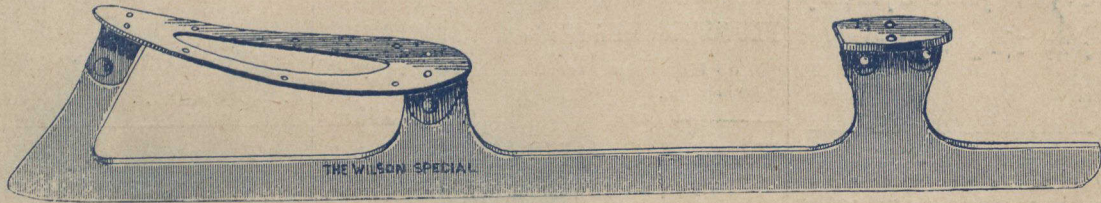
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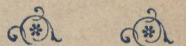
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