

# THE VARSITY

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## HERMITAGE.

Ah! ask me not why I am sad!  
'Tis vain to ask, and vain to know,  
'Tis nothing, something I once had,  
Now lost, so soon, so long ago.

I could not tell thee if I would  
The pain that dwells with memory;  
I would not tell thee if I could  
Life's large lost possibility.

For this fair world that seemed afar  
A fertile reach of flowery meads,  
Is full of desolate paths that are  
Barren and choked with poisonous weeds.

The desolate paths of life that meet  
And pass and never meet again,  
Where fall the fret of feverish feet,  
Complainings of neglected men.

A land of divers tongues, where few  
Agree, and fewer understand  
The struggle of the false and true,  
Blindly withholding hand from hand.

'Tis not thy fault that I am sad,  
In those large eyes there lies no sin,  
For thou hast still what once I had,  
No sorrow for what might have been.

Only one life and one career  
Out of the years, only one choice  
Of being; God, if we should hear  
And follow a delusive voice!

If we should miss the narrow way  
Of love, of beauty, and of truth,  
Into the barren reaches stray  
And harvest no large thoughts for growth.

'Twere vain to dream, to deify,  
As others do, to feel the same,  
When old thoughts do not satisfy,  
Old altars smoulder with dead flame.

The many seek a dimmer flame,  
Low let us unto nature turn,  
And follow no brief creed or fame,  
How low the lights of nature burn!

My spirit burns when sunset fills  
The golden west with dreams of light,  
The purple cloisters of the hills  
With flowery angels of delight.

This hermitage is not our choice.  
Cast far adrift in loneliness,  
'To want a sympathetic voice  
'Midst echoes of a wilderness.

PHILLIPS STEWART.

## THE POLITICS OF LABOUR.

A book under the above title, by Mr. Phillips Thompson, of Toronto, has been published, and is on sale in our book stores. It is a small volume of over two hundred pages, and is printed in clear, large type, on good paper. This of itself says a good deal for a book. The use of small type should be rendered punishable by Act of Parliament. We give life-long penitentiary to the man who blinds another with vitriol, and I do not see why the publisher should escape, who, that his profits may be greater, uses a type likely to occasion blindness in hundreds. Mr. Thompson's book states the case of labour against capital in well written language, and with a clearness which leaves us no doubt as to what he means. He agrees in many respects with the ideas of Mr. Henry George, and with the programme of the more moderate of the Socialist party. He is strongly in favour of what is called land nationalization. The idea is that the Government should take charge of all land, rent it to everybody, and by drawing this rent, do away with the necessity of any other taxation. He wishes the Government to do much more than this. He desires that it take charge of railroads, telegraphs, banks and insurance companies; that it settle the question of wages and of hours of labour, and that, if it be not to enter for itself into every department of business, it is at all events to exercise a very close supervision over them all.

All grain elevators, wharves, warehouses, express companies, steamboat lines, mines, steel and iron works, locomotive factories, and the like, he would absorb and nationalize. He would do away with the gold standard, and allow Governments to issue paper money sufficient for all the needs of commerce, and all this and much more he would do, on what are supposed to be purely Democratic principles, that is to say, all men in authority—the men who are to manage this new world on this new basis—are to be elected by manhood suffrage; in other words, the people at large.

To any person who has, with any depth, studied the question, there is no necessity for pointing out in what these doctrines would result. We have had full opportunity in our municipal corporations, elected by the popular vote, of observing the result where the delegates of the masses attempt to manage business affairs. In Toronto alone we have found such incompetency and such waste to occur as has rendered it necessary to take important powers out of the hands of the corporation, and place them in those of commissioners, and it is now proposed to take others from them still more important. When these commissioners in one case, that of the Water works, were elected by the people, the greatest waste of all—the worthless filtering basin, and other losses—resulted. A committee of the popularly elected corporation have since tried their hands, and Judge McDougall's investigation shows the result.

Throughout America civic management by the popular vote has proved an utter failure. It is impossible to imagine any business involving large expenditure so managed where the same result would not occur. Even if the results were otherwise, the experiment on a large scale would be impossible. The plan of a government managing everything, and appointing everybody to manage

everything under pressure of a popular vote, would simply mean that the tremendous election interests involved would shortly lead to civil war; and this even if honest government were possible under it.

It is impossible, in a short article, to quote fully the doctrines advocated in this book. They are noticeable, because they are held by many, and their adherents are increasing. For these reasons every young man—above all every one interested in education, whether his own or that of others—should read what is there stated, not that they should believe, but that they should be prepared to contradict.

It is a great mistake that in every college there do not exist either regularly appointed teachers of political economy, or a system of education in that study carried out by the ordinary teachers in charge. Nothing is more deplorable than this mistake. The student can see, perhaps, that a book relating to this subject is wrong, false, pernicious. But to show others that it is so requires learning not given, or seldom given, in our schools. If the students are not taught, the masses will never be.

I might sum up my view of the work in question by saying that it proposes a system of public management calculated, in the end, to take from those who possess means, whatever they have accumulated, and give it those who have accumulated nothing. It would pay all alike for labour, and would put an end to industry, for to work idly would draw as much money as to work faithfully. It would end saving, for no one could keep what he had saved. It would end honesty, for it sets out with the idea of confiscation. It would end independent exertion, for exertion, if made, would be only made for the general body. It would do away with all wish to rise, for it aims its fiercest blows at those who have risen. It is a work to be read, that people may know what many advocate; but its teachings should be opposed by all who desire true progress, and dislike the idea of destroying old and sure foundations in the hope of promised benefits, doubtful of obtainment, and, if obtained, certain to reveal themselves in their true colours, the deadliest injuries to humanity.

R. W. PHIPPS.

#### NIGHT THOUGHTS.

Up the starry hills of heaven rise, thou radiant autumn moon!  
Throw thy mystic mask of beauty  
In sublime and solemn duty  
O'er the slumbering world of mortals, doomed to dissolution soon.

As a dream dispelled at dawning, when the darkness turns to day,  
As a cloud the strong wind chases  
Through the far aerial spaces,  
So is Life, of Love begotten, swift, like Love, to pass away.

One night waits for each and other, all the road of death must tread;  
See the daylight burn to darkness;  
Feel the clammy corpse's starkness;  
Solve the mystery of living, and be numbered with the dead.

Is there aught in life to live for, power that passes, love that lies,  
Friendship weaker than is water?  
Are not all we sealed for slaughter  
By the despot hand of Death, who, all-subduing, never dies?

Deathward ever, deathward ever, flows the troubled stream of life,  
On with mad, relentless motion  
To oblivion's broad ocean,  
Where the sources of existence sever in the senseless strife.

Thou, but thou shin'st on serenely, circling to the spheric tune,  
Chill and changeless: on thy bosom,  
Like a ghostly golden blossom,  
Sleeps life's semblance, sun-shed, silent; palely radiant plenilune!

GWYN ARAUN.

#### CHARLES READE.\*

Dull and commonplace as are many biographies, it was impossible that such an one should have been written of Charles Reade. The work before us might more properly be described as an autobiography, since the compilers have allowed their subject to speak for himself in his numerous letters and diaries, and have contented themselves with ordering and arranging into a systematic whole the story of his life and works. It is all the more satisfactory that it should be thus in this case, seeing that the work is edited by two near relatives, and the very fact of relationship is apt, however carefully guarded against, to prejudice the mind and influence the judgment of literary executors. A few such instances occur throughout this biography, but much can be forgiven the authors, who have evidently been sincere in their desire to place certain matters in connection with Charles Reade's life in their true light, and who have, doubtless, been goaded into a somewhat spirited advocacy of his cause, by the incorrect estimate of strangers, and the malicious criticisms of enemies. The Rev. Compton Reade, in the preface, acknowledges his responsibility for whatever opinions are hazarded on men and things. He tells us that he "has written from the standpoint of a near relative, of a foundation member—for a quarter of a century—of his uncle's college, and of a close literary association." The selection of the fragments from Charles Reade's correspondence and literary remains have been made by Mr. Charles L. Reade, his literary executor. Such being the case one is prepared for an interesting memoir, and the reader will not be disappointed. There is not a dull page in the book. Literary biographies are always entertaining, and the strong individuality of Charles Reade, combined with his high reputation and popularity as an author, have contributed materially to enhance the value and interest of the record of his life.

Full details are given of Charles Reade's ancestry, from which it appears he was of gentle birth, the son of Squire Reade, of the manor of Ipsden, and Anna Maria Scott-Waring. His father was a gentleman of the old school, who preferred his country life and its field sports to the glamour of the city and political preferment. In this particular Charles was a true son of his father, as many anecdotes told of him plainly show; though, strange as it may seem, Charles Reade's constant boast through life was, we are told, that "he was, *par excellence*, his mother's son, a Scott-Waring rather than a Reade!" From the account given of Mrs. Reade, it is easily seen that Charles inherited from his mother those qualities of head and heart which made him so conspicuous:

"The mother of Charles Reade was no common woman. Born under the torrid sun of Madras, immersed while yet a girl in the life of politics, society and the Court, she was, before all things, a lady. Haydn taught her music, and Sheridan epigram and *à la partee*. Her manner was perfect, and her conversational power so extraordinary as to have fascinated so superior a master of rhetoric as Samuel Wilberforce."

Charles Reade was the youngest of eleven children, and was born on the 8th of June, 1814. His school days at Rose Hill, Iffley, and at Staines were anything but pleasant memories to him, and his great regret seems to have been that he had never been at a public school. His election to a Demyship at Magdalen College was not due altogether to his having friends at Court, but to his own merit. It seems that one of the chief requirements at the examination was ability to write an English essay. In this Reade excelled, even as a youth. The subject of the essay given at the time Reade applied, was "How far is Ambition productive of Virtue?" The other candidates, to a man, the narrator of the incident tells us,

"imagining the college expected them to glorify Uriah Heepishness, proceeded on the old trite track to decry ambition, as one of the devastating forces of humanity. Charles Reade, however, being himself wildly ambitious, was not so canting a hypocrite as

\* Charles Reade, D.C.L., Dramatist, Novelist, Journalist. A Memoir Compiled Chiefly from his Literary Remains. By Charles L. Reade and the Rev. Compton Reade. With Portrait. pp. x., 448. 12mo., Cloth, \$1.25. New York: Harper Brothers.

to abuse a quality he admired so intensely. He took pen and wrote *con brio*, yet judgmentally, his ideas. . . . Without ambition as a motive power, he contended, there would be no excellence, nothing but a dead level of mediocrity. . . . Further, he argued that the sole alternative of ambition would be a chaotic stagnation of all the mental faculties; and, in brief, his peroration was the warmest eulogium of the very quality which the other candidates had been gibbeting as the meanest of vices."

This original conduct of Reade's elicited this approving comment from one of the tutors: "Good heavens, here is a boy who gives us his own ideas instead of other people's!" Dr. Routh, the President of the college, endorsed the favourable verdict of his subordinate, and Charles Reade became Demy of Magdalen. No more characteristic anecdote could be told of Charles Reade. He was honest and straightforward, even Quixotic at times, but sincere always.

His undergraduate life was uneventful enough, and his whole academic career irksome to him. He was successively Demy, Fellow, Dean, and Vice-President of his college—Magdalen, but took no very active part in college life, except upon the question of the conversion of the Fellows into stipendiaries, at fixed salaries. Reade showed that this move would render the Fellows no longer "the masters in their own house, and that the control of their vast estates would virtually pass from them."

He interested himself in the election of the Rev. Mr. Bulley, as successor to that "poor human fossil," Dr. Routh, in the Presidency of Magdalen College, and when the rapacious University Commissioners attacked the revenues of the college, with a view to its reorganization, Charles Reade stepped into the breach and did much to undo the mischief done by the stupidity and cupidity of the President and Fellows. By his "Rupertlike impetuosity," he carried all opposition before him, and saved his college at a most critical period of her history.

Charles Reade's acquaintanceship with Laura Seymour was contemporaneous with the beginning of his serious career as an author and a man of letters. His biographer tells us that "like almost every author who has attained celebrity, he began by sowing a large crop of literary wild oats. He believed himself to be a dramatist born, and at the outset his thoughts focussed themselves entirely upon the stage." This infatuation, and one can scarcely call it by another name, remained always present with him, and upon his tombstone he wished to have written: "Charles Reade, Dramatist, Novelist, Journalist," placing his favourite occupation in the first place. He was always true to his coy and oftentimes unresponsive mistress, and wooed her with an ardour worthy of a better reward than was vouchsafed him. The chief, the dominating trait of his whole character is well summed up in the remark: "Charles Reade thirsted not so much for gold as for fame; no man suffered less from the *auri sacra fames*; none was less mercenary." And this seems strange when it is considered that at the time Charles Reade first essayed authorship, a good novel commanded a high price, and he was never well off in this world's goods, being extravagant and careless in money matters—whereas there was little or no encouragement held out for a good play, and yet it is not strange when one remembers who and what Charles Reade was.

Mrs. Seymour was a member of Mr. Buckstone's Haymarket Company, and if we are to believe Mr. Compton Reade, "never an actress of the very highest rank; but she was magnanimous and appreciative, and, like many women of her calibre, could recognize the difference between a real and a sham gentleman." The relationship between Charles Reade and Mrs. Seymour is paralleled in that which existed between Mr. Lewes and George Eliot. It was something more than a mere literary partnership, and as his biographer, upon the testimony of Mr. Winwood Reade, an avowed atheist, and a man who, on philosophic grounds, despised morality, clearly and unequivocally acquits Charles Reade and Mrs. Seymour of anything even savouring of a *liaison*, or amorganatic marriage, we can only say, with him, and believing in the honesty and sincerity of Charles Reade: "*Honi soit qui mal y pense!*" This friendship was a lasting one, and was the making of

Reade. Laura Seymour was indeed "the architect of his fortune, if not of his reputation."

"Peg Woffington," the novel, and "Masks and Faces," the drama, were deemed by Charles Reade the "first fruits" of his genius, and are incomparably the best work done by him as a novelist and as a dramatist. Upon them both he lavished his tenderest care, his most loving elaboration; and it is safe to affirm that for graphic force, brilliancy of execution, and sustained power "Peg Woffington" stands unrivalled in the list of English novels; while "Masks and Faces" will always rank deservedly high, to use the words of Mr. Arnold Taylor, "one of the very best finished comedies of modern times." From the pecuniary result of the sales of his next novel, "Christie Johnstone," we are certainly justified in regarding it only as a *succes d'estime*, as Compton Reade phrases it. The next novel, "It is Never too Late to Mend," was instantly and enthusiastically recognized by the public as a masterpiece. Its publication must be regarded as a veritable victory for Charles Reade. He had at last caught the public ear, at last had achieved what he was thirsting for—fame. Its *morale* was thus eloquently stated by Serjeant Cox, the editor of *The Critic*:—

"It is a principle-novel, aimed against a system, and that system one of the most crying evils which affect humanity; it attacks that code of discipline which converts error into crime, crime into madness; which makes pickpockets burglars, and burglars murderers; which, under the pretence of philanthropy, inflicts tortures beside which the most cruel refinements of the Inquisition were as gentle mercies; which treats the criminal as a machine to be systematized, and not as a soul to be saved; it is levelled at the solitary, separate and silent system of treating criminals."

Such a work, as, indeed, were most of the novels of Charles Reade, was born of his boundless sympathies, his exceeding love of truth and justice, and his undying hatred of their opposites. Nearly all his novels were what are called "principle novels"—that is, they were aimed at the great social abuses of the day; and it is not too much to say that to these novels is attributable much of the change which came over public opinion with reference to them. Notable in this respect are "Hard Cash," directed against private asylums, and "Put Yourself in His Place," which deals with trades-unionism, its terrorism, and the outrages incident thereto. It is not necessary to enumerate further his literary works; their names and purpose are well known. Suffice it to say that in all of them there is that high literary, artistic, and noble sincerity so characteristic of all Charles Reade's writings. He battled long and single handed against pride, prejudice, and ignorance, and it is his highest praise to say that he overcame them all by the honesty of his purpose, the pertinacity of his will power, and by the sheer force of his genius.

Charles Reade's religious principles are well expressed and summed up in the touching epitaph which he wrote for himself, and with which we shall close this sketch of his life and work:

HERE LIES,

BY THE SIDE OF HIS BELOVED FRIEND,

THE MORTAL REMAINS OF

CHARLES READE

DRAMATIST, NOVELIST, JOURNALIST.

*His last words to mankind are on this stone:*

"I hope for a resurrection—not from any power in nature, but from the will of the Lord God Omnipotent, who made nature and me. He created man out of nothing, which nature could not. He can restore man from the dust, which nature cannot.

"And I hope for holiness and happiness in a future life—not for anything I have said or done in this body, but from the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ.

"He has promised His intercession to all who seek it, and He will not break His word; that intercession once granted cannot be rejected; for He is God, and His merits infinite; a man's sins are but human and finite.

"'Him that cometh unto Me, I will in nowise cast out.' 'If any man sin we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the Righteous, and He is the propitiation for our sins.' Amen."

F. W. P.

## THE VARSITY.

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

Contributions when not accepted will be returned if accompanied with a stamp for that purpose.

### TO OUR READERS.

At this, the beginning of its Eighth Annual Volume, the conductors of THE VARSITY desire once more to bring before its readers some of the claims which THE VARSITY has upon the University public.

First of all, it is the University Journal. Upon this ground, it should appeal powerfully to the sympathy and support of all University men, whether graduates or undergraduates. It is, it may be said without exaggeration, the one and only link which binds the graduate to his former *Alma Mater*; and, whatever may be said, in a deprecating way, of sentiment, there can be no doubt that it plays an important part in our lives and actions. In the case of our University, especially, is it needful to cultivate such a spirit. Being under political control, and being the national University of the Province, free to all, it cannot gather about it the same class of alumni as the different church colleges are able to do. These latter are part and parcel of the regular organization and work of the different denominations, and as such appeal most successfully to the adherents of these denominations, many of whom are bound to their church colleges by other and closer ties. Loyalty to a church and its institutions is the great and enduring hold which a denominational college has over every member of the same. But the case of the University of Toronto is different. Independent as it is in one sense, it is nevertheless very dependent in another. Free from that somewhat fluctuating support which other colleges receive, it is, on the other hand, subject to political control, with all which such a system means, and to the influence of public opinion and public criticism. Its real and true strength lies in the simple and faithful regard with which her graduates and friends look after her interests. Its very life is the love and affection of its alumni. If we seem to place great stress upon this point, it is because we are most profoundly impressed with its importance. In order that such a spirit may be encouraged and kept vigorously alive, it is very necessary that the undergraduates should realize their position with regard to this matter. They should not think that their duty towards their college is compassed by a mere conventional observance of rules and regulations, payment of fees, and attendance at lectures. They should do something more than all this. They should be very jealous of the honour and reputation of the University; and, indeed, what, after all, is the University apart from the men who are, and those who hope to become, its alumni? And what is its reputation and good name worth if the graduates and undergraduates bring discredit in any way upon it? And in this connection, it may be said that there is as much injury done by apathy and neglect as by positive action.

It is, therefore, very necessary that students, above all others, should cultivate a spirit of loyalty and affection for the University, of respect for its professoriate, and of chivalrous regard for its institutions and customs. In a large University, like our own, we are apt to regard mere strength of numbers as a criterion of success, and to measure everything by this standard. But numbers may be, and often are, a great source of weakness, owing to lack of unity and cohesion. But, however greatly the tastes of students may differ, however dissimilar their characters may be, however widely their chosen paths may diverge, the University and its institutions form a common meeting-ground, a central rallying-point, at which all may unite and gather courage and inspiration for the future. We cannot all agree upon all subjects, we cannot all see

eye to eye in all matters, but we can all unite in a loyal support of our *Alma Mater*.

Amongst University institutions, THE VARSITY occupies an important place. If there is any one object for which a University should exist, it is the cultivation of literature and literary tastes. In the hurry and rush of modern business life this is apt to be overlooked, and a preference expressed for scientific and practical pursuits. This is perhaps natural, but it should not be allowed to dominate everything. A University training is a very proper preparation for a professional career, but it should not be undertaken solely with a view to its possible benefit in this direction. About all that a University training can do for a man is to furnish him with principles for future action calculated to satisfy what Matthew Arnold calls his instinct for conduct and his instinct for beauty.

In Canada we have not the leisure class, to be met with in England, nor the wealthy class, to be found in the United States, who are independent, to a great extent, of external circumstances, and who can cultivate their literary and artistic tastes without calculating as to how much they will minister to their necessities, or how far they will go in helping to secure a competence. Therefore, when we have a chance of indulging our literary tastes, and of cultivating literature and the "humanities," afforded by our four years' sojourn at a University, it is all the more necessary that we should make the best of our time, and strive to realize the fullest benefit from opportunities which may never occur again to many of us.

To those who have, or who are cultivating literature and literary tastes, and to those who take an interest in the University and its affairs, THE VARSITY affords a medium for the expression of these tastes and of that interest which the Editors have ever striven to make open and accessible to any one who takes an interest in these things. Those who have left the University can, by a criticism of current educational, literary, social, or University affairs, do a real service to the public and to the readers of THE VARSITY, and by reading its pages can keep themselves *en rapport* with contemporary life and thought at the University. Those who are still with us can find an outlet for their literary thoughts and aspirations, and will thereby obtain practice, and with practice gain confidence, power, and skill in literary composition, and independence of thought in literary criticism, all of which will have an influence far beyond the immediate present. Aided by all these agencies, and encouraged by the sympathy, confidence, and practical help of graduates, undergraduates, and friends of the University and of higher education, THE VARSITY can in some measure realize the attainment of the hopes of its founders, and can become a worthy and helpful "journal of literature, University thought, and events."

### YEAR DINNERS.

At the present time it is somewhat doubtful what course will be pursued with regard to the annual University Dinner. The usual diversity of opinion is expressed, and the problem is further complicated by the proposal to hold a "union" dinner of Arts and Medical students. What the students will finally determine on is, as yet, a matter of conjecture. In case too strong a divergence of opinion may ensue, after the matter has been pretty freely discussed, THE VARSITY has a suggestion to offer which may solve the difficulty, and cut the Gordian knot.

The proposal which THE VARSITY has to offer is simply this: that the students of each year hold a dinner or supper of their own, choose their own time and place, elect their own officers, invite their own guests, and manage the affair entirely themselves.

It will be admitted without much question that with the increasing numbers who enroll themselves at the university, it has become a positive impossibility for a man to know ten per cent. of his fellow-students. All that he can now hope to do is to become acquainted with those in the same year as himself, and more or less intimately with those who are pursuing the same course as himself. This being the case, and the difficulty of large numbers again asserting itself, the plan we propose seems to meet the requirements of the case—in so far as the promotion of sociability and friendly intercourse are concerned, and we presume such are the objects in view.

Each year contains, on an average, from fifty to seventy-five students. Now, whilst it would be a practical impossibility to dine,

say three hundred persons, with comfort to each and all, it would be the easiest thing in the world to dine seventy-five to a hundred at a time. The experiment of a large dinner has been tried several times, under various conditions and circumstances, by the students, and in no case has the experience been satisfactory to all.

By the method we propose we are confident that the excellent custom of college dinners could be maintained without sacrificing any important principle, or doing away with any established custom. On the contrary, we are certain that more true sociability, a healthy and vigorous class-feeling and sentiment will be thereby encouraged and promoted. By this means the men of each year will be able to know one another better, and will pull together more unitedly, and will be more apt to make and retain friendships which will last throughout the college course and not terminate even then. Again, each class will be able to decide more satisfactorily what sort of an entertainment they prefer, what they, as a class, can afford, and what will please the majority better than a general Committee acting for the whole body of students. In fact, the more the question is discussed, the more does the proposal of class dinners reveal innate possibilities of good which we are sure will commend themselves to the students as a body.

But whatever action the students take, we would strongly advocate the holding of a Graduating Class Dinner on the evening of Commencement Day. This, of all other customs, should be kept up, and its advantages are so well known and so patent as to require no more comment on our part. We hope that the class of '88 will see that the custom is honoured this year, not in the breach, but in the observance.

While on the subject of dinners, we may as well enquire, what does the Fourth Year propose to do about dining the Freshmen? This good custom was most happily and successfully inaugurated last year, and we hope will not be allowed to die out. This entertainment should be held sometime before the Christmas vacation, and the sooner the better.

THE VARSITY is, of course, expressing only its own views on these subjects, and will be only too glad if they should bear good fruit in the shape of discussion, and eventually of practical and united action on the part of the students. We are always fond of theorizing about sociability; let us put some of our theories into practice.

## COMMUNICATION.

The Editors are not responsible for the opinions of correspondents.  
No notice will be taken of unsigned contributions.

## Varsity Athletics.

To the Editors of THE VARSITY.

SIRS,—Permit me to express an opinion in regard to the position taken by the majority of our undergraduates towards the athletic associations of the college, and also in regard to certain reforms which to me appear expedient in this connection. The undeniable success of our games this year, and of our Rugby fifteen up to the time of their meeting the Ottawa cannibals, might lead persons who are not fully acquainted with the facts, to think that the athletic spirit is thoroughly alive among our undergraduates, and, no doubt, a stranger visiting our lawn on a bright afternoon, and seeing our boys swarming over the grass, might be of the same opinion. But appearances are sometimes deceptive. Let us consider first the question of football alone. I have for years had in my head a Utopian idea of uniting all our able-bodied students in the pursuit of one game, whether it be Association or Rugby. The advantages of this seem to me to be apparent. There would be a greater *esprit de corps* among all our football men. At present we are a rope of sand. Association men and Rugby men lack a thorough and appreciative sympathy with each other. There is a greater or less tendency to exclusiveness fostered by the present system. In my opinion, if we all played one game, in five years we might have four or five fifteens, the fourth or fifth of which would be able to defeat Guelph, Upper Canada, Trinity or Toronto. The third would grapple with Ottawa and McGill; the second could clean out Harvard and Yale, while we would send our first fifteen over to England to humiliate the mother country. I hope this mild suggestion will be considered. Space forbids that I should pursue the topic further than Europe. There are several other matters which require attention. Many friends of the college have been pained to see that the undergraduates have re-

sponded so poorly to the appeal for subscriptions to the annual games. There are many praiseworthy exceptions, and allowance must be made also for students who could not really afford to subscribe. Nevertheless, the result has been to prove convincingly the lack of a proper athletic spirit in the majority of our students. If they had had the proper feeling they would have been looking forward to the day of the games all through the year. It would be the red letter day of the season, and they would have pinched their pockets in other respects in order to open them well in this. It is a shame that friends of the college should be called upon to subscribe for such an object.

The root of the trouble lies in the fact that the high schools, which now turn out the large majority of the undergraduates, do not foster the athletic spirit. In many, an "actin' pole" and a few feet of foot-worn grass constitute their only field for muscular development. Among a certain class of our undergraduates there are too many who think it sufficient to kick the ball around for half an hour after lectures in a random way with their all-day clothes on. This system does not conduce to cleanliness and health, to say nothing of athletic improvement. Of course time is valuable and it takes time to dress, and money is valuable and it takes money to buy a jersey and knickerbockers. My idea is that the Rugby and Association Clubs should unite on a uniform suit which would be less expensive—say white canvas jacket and knickerbockers, with blue belt and hose. They could order these by the dozen wholesale and have them for purchase in the gymnasium at \$1.50 or \$2.00 per suit. Students could get them by paying a small sum down and the rest when they were able. What a sight it would be to see three or four games of football on the lawn, sixty or seventy men, all in white and blue suits! There would be also a practical advantage from the fact that twice as many students would take the trouble to go over to the gymnasium and dress, and the athletic spirit would be strongly stimulated. This brings us to the subject of that gloomy, barn-like, foul-smelling sty dignified by the name of gymnasium, in which our athletes are compelled to swelter. Something should be done by the authorities to make this a place suitable for breathing purposes. One thing is needed, however, without which the gymnasium will never amount to much. At present, if you enter it in the afternoon, you see a few swinging clubs in a desultory manner, others listlessly hoisting dumb-bells, and the rest in a wandering, aimless way pulling at weights. The parallel bars, ladders, trapezes, flying ring, and the horizontal bar and vaulting pole are but spasmodically used. Why is all this? The reason is that the students do not know how to use them. An instructor is necessary. Those who remember the days of old Professor Andrews, who taught in a down town gymnasium years ago, and those who have seen his class at work, will understand what our gymnasium wants. Let us enquire more minutely into the working of such a class and its advantages will be clearly seen. The instructor ought to be a musician and the greater part of the class work should be done in well-marked musical time, the teacher playing lively and spirited airs. First the class forms in line and numbers; each man has his proper place, graduated according to muscular-ability. There is, of course, emulation to stand well up in the class and this can only be done by practising every day. The programme opens with a five or ten minutes run round the gymnasium. The line breaks into two and the leaders of each begin winding in intricate designs. Each man has only to follow the man in front of him and the result is a beautiful human kaleidoscope. After this they march around to the racks and take the dumb bells, go through a pretty exercise to music followed by a similar one with clubs, staccato music being used for the dumb bell exercises and more rhythmic music for the club-swinging. Then the class takes the parallel bars, and one after another its members do the band hops, forward and backward, the jumping grasshopper, raising and swinging, the letter "L" and other feats. Each man goes as far as he can and then drops out. He knows exactly how many times he can raise himself from half arm and how much he can do of each exercise, and is stimulated by good-natured emulation and by the encouragement derived from feeling his own gradual gain in ability. The vaulting with one and two hands follows, and the horizontal bar, with feats of varied descriptions from "Skinning the Cat" to the "Giant's Swing." As before, each man does all he can and drops out, while the better men go onward to the nobler feats and he looks on with admiring eye and is determined some day to be able to do that too. The trapeze, ladders, and rings follow in the same way. If we had such a system each man, when he came to the gymnasium every afternoon would know exactly what to do. He would know in what he was weakest and would devote his time to making up the deficiency. Above all there is the fascinating interest that inevitably attaches to it. With him daily exercise is performed not now as a duty only, but with the keenest pleasure. Boxing would not then, as it does now, vary between useless tapping on the one hand and promiscuous slugging on the other, and fencing would become a graceful art instead of an angular series of alternate stabs.

The gymnasium lies at the root of our success in football, cricket, running or jumping, and we will never distinguish ourselves in any of these branches till we have a radical reform in its management.

W. A. FROST.

## ROUND THE TABLE.

The following extract from an article on "The Physical Characteristics of the Athlete," by Dr. Sargent, in the November *Scribner's*, will be read with interest by those who took part in the cross-country race on Thursday: "The essential requisites of a long-distance runner are a strong heart and capacious lungs in a broad, deep and mobile chest. The reason for this will be apparent to those who understand the physiology of exercise. To sustain long-continued exertion latent energy in the muscles used is necessary, and also a ready means of supplying these muscles with an increased amount of oxygen while in action, and of carrying away the carbonic acid that results from the combustion in the tissues. Hence the necessity of breathing faster while running than while walking, and unless this exchange of gases can be carried on with sufficient rapidity and in sufficient quantities to meet the demands of the organism under these trying circumstances, there soon comes an end to further muscular activity, though the muscles themselves may be far from exhaustion."

\* \* \*

Here, also, is something about the legs of sprint runners, to which I cordially subscribe, having made a careful examination of several pairs of legs at the annual sports: "We feel prepared to maintain that relatively long limbs with a short body, full chest, and small bones, will characterize the typical short-distance runner wherever he may be found. The small girth of the legs of runners is often mystifying. From the girth of a muscle we get a correct idea of its volume, or transverse diameters, but learn little of its length and the extent of its contractile fibres. Whereas it is the length of the muscle, and not the thickness, that is of significance to short-distance runners. Given the physiological fact that a muscle can contract about one-third of its length, it will readily be seen that the longer the muscle the greater will be the movement of the part to which it is attached. To the runner the desired movement is in the elevation of the thigh, and the extension and flexion of the leg and foot. An instantaneous photograph of sprint-runners shows that the range in the movement of the limbs is very extensive—the stride of a fast walker being from four to six feet, and that of a fast runner from six to eight feet. If the stature is short, it is necessary for the runner to get a greater elevation from the ground at each step, in order to maintain a long stride. When this is done a relatively long lower leg is of the greatest advantage. This fact is admirably brought out in the case of Myers, the professional runner. With a height of 5 feet 7½ inches, which is a little below the mean, or fifty per cent. class, he has a length of lower leg which corresponds to a man over five feet 10 inches in height, a length of thigh usually found in men of 5 feet 9 inches, while the sitting height is the same as that which makes up the stature of men of 5 feet 4 inches."

\* \* \*

One of our most valued exchanges, the *College Transcript*, the organ of the students of the Ohio Wesleyan University, makes some very sensible remarks on the subject of "practical" education: "A great deal is now being said on the subject of 'practical education.' Education that is not *practical* is not worthy the name, but any attempt to remove the classical and æsthetic element from it, is defeating its own cause. Technical education is all right for special branches, but thorough culture belongs to the old classic system. The 'modern idea' is being carried too far when the attempt is made to estimate education by probable financial returns. There is no doubt that it is a paying investment, but the pay is not always in the shape of dollars and cents."

\* \* \*

The *Illini* puts the case in a nutshell when it says:—"Perhaps the most difficult task which any institution furnishing a liberal education has to assume, is to rid itself of the slur of unfitting a man for a useful and practical life."

The following *jeu d'esprit* is in the current *Illini*:

"Our life is an etching  
And shadows alone  
Can give to the outline  
Its beauty and tone."

\* \* \*

A contributor to our contemporary, the *Educational Journal* of this city, writes on the subject of examinations. He is evidently one of those who feel that the cap which Mr. Haultain made fits him. At any rate, he wears it. "B.A." says:—"Perhaps the most specious and delusive of these fallacies is contained in the statement that the examiner's work gives him one of the best possible opportunities of testing the general efficiency of the teachers in our schools. Almost every inexperienced examiner receives this false impression at the beginning of his duties, and it can be corrected only by a little more experience and a little more reflection. The absurd answers, prolixity, vagueness, and absolute nonsense through which he has laboriously to wade, reveal to the examiner the ignorance and the confusion of thought that are painfully apparent at every pass examination in the world. These numerous failures are almost certain to impress him far more deeply and permanently than the few papers of high excellence. The recollection of preposterous answers is almost sure to fill a larger area in his memory than that of the precise, clear-cut, model answers which are always in hopeless minority. It is, however, from the *best* and not from the *worst* results exhibited at an examination that any fair inference can be drawn regarding the power and efficiency of the teaching the candidates have received. It is from the high-water mark alone that we can estimate what may have been the depth of the stream which we can now measure only indirectly and by inference. If a single pupil in a given class answers the papers in clear, accurate, lucid style, that one student redeems the character of the teaching given to the whole class, and sends us in search of other causes for the numerous failures."

\* \* \*

This last sentence quite caps the climax. Because there may happen to be one bright boy in a class, his precocious performances are to be the index of the general knowledge and attainments of all his fellows! Surely "B.A." would not be content to carry his doctrine into his every-day life. Would he, for instance, be willing to accept and pay for a barrel-full of worm-eaten apples because there was one whole one in the lot? Would that one good apple "redeem the character" of the whole barrel-full? No, most emphatically. And the trouble with some of our schools just now is that they are more concerned to turn out one or two prodigies, one or two double-scholarship men, than they are to look after the less brilliant but no less deserving pupils who form the large majority of school classes. The fact of there being one or two good pupils is no safe criterion of the excellence of the teaching given to the whole class.

\* \* \*

John Morley, in an address before the London Society for the Extension of University Training, said:—"Literature consists of all the books—and they are not so many—where moral truth and human passion are touched with a certain largeness, sanity, and attraction of form; and my notion of the literary student is one who through books explores the strange voyages of man's moral reason, the impulses of the human heart, the chances and changes that have overtaken human ideals of virtue and happiness, of conduct and manners, and the shifting fortunes of great conceptions of truth and virtue. Poets, dramatists, humorists, satirists, masters of fiction, the great preachers, the character writers, the maxim writers, the great political orators—they are all literature in so far as they teach us to know man and know human nature. This is what makes literature, rightly sifted and selected and rightly studied, not the mere elegant trifling that it is so often and erroneously supposed, but a proper instrument for a systematic training of the imagination and sympathies, and of a genial and varied moral sensibility."

## UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE NEWS.

All reports from Societies must reach us by noon on Thursday to secure insertion.

## THE VARSITY PUBLISHING CO.

## BALANCE SHEET, 1886-7.

## RECEIPTS.

Balance from 1885-6.....	\$ 270 00
Subscriptions ".....	440 00
Advertisements ".....	365 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,075 00

## EXPENDITURE.

Balance 1885-86 checked off.....	\$ 20 94
Publishing.....	821 40
Coal and kindling.....	10 05
Discount on Cheques.....	1 50
Durance and office cleaning.....	18 00
Collecting, car fare.....	50
Furniture and Repairing.....	47 65
Stationery, Stamps, &c.....	10 05
Sundries.....	24 00
Balance 1886 7.....	118 91
	<hr/>
	\$1,075 00

## ASSETS.

Cash on hand and in Bank.....	\$ 118 91
Subscriptions unpaid 1886-87.....	450 00
Advertisements ".....	35 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 603 91

## LIABILITIES.

Stock.....	\$ 500 00
Balance.....	103 91
	<hr/>
	\$ 603 91

Examined and found correct.

J. EDMUND JONES, } Auditors.  
R. J. GIBSON, }

T. A. GIBSON, Treasurer.

instructed to communicate with the Queen's College Literary Society, relative to an intercollegiate debate with them in Convocation Hall. A communication from the McGill Literary Society, asking that arrangements be made for a debate between them and our Literary Society in Montreal, was received, and the Corresponding Secretary was requested to reply that under present circumstances the society does not see its way clear to undertake such an event. The literary programme was opened by a song from Mr. W. H. Grant, followed by an essay on "Oliver Wendell Holmes," by Mr. U. C. Ferguson. The meeting then divided, the second and third years going into the adjoining room. The subject for debate was, "Resolved: That the abolition of capital punishment in Canada is desirable." For the fourth year, Messrs. N. P. Buckingham and T. A. Gibson spoke; for the first, Messrs. C. A. Stuart and T. D. Dockray; for the third, Messrs. Macnamara and Elliot, and for the second, Messrs. O'Connell and Graham. The discussion of the fourth and first years was for the affirmative, of the second and third years for the negative. About seventy undergraduates were present. The programme for the 11th inst. is an especially good one, and ought to draw a large audience. The subject for debate is, "Resolved: That a system of high license is more desirable in the interest of temperance than prohibition." Mr. Wilton will lead the affirmative and Mr. Fenton the negative. The debate will be an *open* one.

The first public debate for the season of 1887-8 was held in Convocation Hall, on Friday evening. The programme included the inaugural of President Creelman, a reading by F. B. Hodgins, songs by the Glee Club, and a debate on the subject of making Classics compulsory at University College. Messrs. Higgins, Steen, Sparling and Cody were the debaters. A full report will appear next week.

THE GLEE CLUB has resumed work this term with brightened prospects. Its meetings—four of which have so far been held—have been marked by unusual enthusiasm, and excellent progress has already been made on the works in hand. The programme for the year is well chosen and includes "The Image of the Rose" (Reichardt), "The Tar's Song" (Hatton), "The Toast" (Follner), and "Stars of the Summer Night" (Hatton), on which the club is now at work. College chorus singing will be made a prominent feature and all the selections to be studied will be of a bright and popular character. Mr. E. W. Schuch has been appointed Conductor. The President and members heartily invite all possessing the necessary qualifications to identify themselves with the club.

MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY.—A regular meeting of the Mathematical and Physical Society was held in Lecture Room No. 8, on Tuesday afternoon, November 1st. The President, Mr. T. Mulvey, B.A., occupied the chair. The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society:—S. J. Rothwell, A. D. Meldrum, D. Walker, W. Haines, W. Dillane and M. Currie. The following were nominated for membership:—W. H. Hill, John Gormley, J. C. Doidge, G. Hammill, D. A. Burgess, C. A. Chant, and W. Percy. A paper tracing the development of the Infinitesimal Calculus, was read by H. S. Robertson, and one on the Life and Works of Sir Isaac Newton, by Mr. A. T. DeLury. Problems were solved by Messrs. Rothwell, DeLury, Meldrum, Robertson, and Mulvey. Mr. A. C. McKay, B.A., was elected Corresponding Secretary, in place of Mr. Bowerman, who has left the city, and Mr. A. D. Meldrum was chosen first year Councillor.

THE MODERN LANGUAGE CLUB held its inaugural meeting for the year on Monday, Oct. 17th, Mr. Franklin McLeay, President, in the chair. Invitation cards had been sent to all Modern Language students of the first year and there was a large attendance of members and others. Dr. Wilson gave an instructive address on Tennyson, the author chosen for the evening's study, the remainder of the programme being composed of well-chosen readings by Miss Scott and Mr. Dales, an essay by Mr. A. Smith on "The Teachings of Tennyson," and an interesting review by Miss Charles, of "Locksley Hall" and "Locksley Hall Sixty Years After," read, in the writer's absence, by Miss Eastwood.

The second meeting was held on Monday, the 24th, Vice-President F. C. Snider presiding. Edmond About was the author of the evening. Readings by Messrs. W. R. Rutherford and O. P. Edgar from About's works, and an essay by Miss Lawlor, made up a profitable programme. A second essay by one of the lady undergraduates was not forthcoming, owing to her unavoidable absence from the city.

On Monday, the 31st Oct., a German meeting took place, President McLeay in the chair. Mr. W. H. Vandersmissen gave an address on the career of Lessing, and was followed by Miss Robson in an essay on the "Laocoon," and by Mr. E. A. Hartz in a reading from the author's works. The remainder of the evening was devoted to a short discussion of business matters and to conversation in the German language.

The club seems to be entering on a year of pleasure and profit

THE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY met for the first time this term on Friday, 14th ult., the President in the chair. Mr. F. B. Hodgins read "Rubinstein's Piano" with good effect. But the feature of the evening was an essay written by Mr. Gordon Waldron, and read by Mr. W. H. Hodges, on the rather profound subject, "Are mathematical judgments synthetical *a priori*?" At the close of the reading of the essay, Mr. T. M. Higgins criticized some points in the philosophy contained in it. A debate followed on the subject, "Resolved, That the proposed abolition of Residence is judicious and commendable." Mr. J. Edmund Jones led the affirmative and Mr. Suffel the negative. The other speakers were, on the affirmative, Mr. H. J. Cody; on the negative, Messrs. J. H. Moss, T. M. Higgins, J. B. Pyke and J. N. Elliot. The President, after ably summing up, decided in favour of the negative. Nearly a hundred undergraduates were present.

The second meeting of the Society was held on the 21st ult., the President in the chair. Mr. Pyke favoured the Society with a humorous and patriotic essay on "She and other she's." Mr. F. H. Moss sang "Bugaboo." The subject for debate was, "Resolved, That the age of chivalry is gone and one of economists and calculators has succeeded." The meeting divided, the First and Third years retiring into the adjoining room, with the Second Vice-President in the chair. For the Second and Fourth years Messrs. H. J. Crawford, W. Prendergast and A. T. DeLury spoke; for the First and Third Messrs. G. A. H. Fraser, F. R. Macnamara, H. J. Cody, A. Smith and J. N. Elliot. In both divisions the decision was in favour of the negative. A letter received from McGill, relative to an intercollegiate debate, was received and action thereon deferred till the next meeting. Messrs. A. T. DeLury and Gemmel were elected Second and Third Year councillors respectively on the General Committee. About seventy undergraduates were present.

The society met for the third time this term on Friday, 28th ult., President Creelman in the chair. The question of accepting the arrangements made by the Intercollegiate Committee for debates with Trinity and Knox Colleges, was discussed and referred to the General Committee, with instructions to report at the next ordinary meeting of the society. The Corresponding Secretary was

to its members. The programme arranged has already been published in our columns, and includes many of the authors prescribed in the curriculum of the college. The society's meetings should therefore be very advantageous to all who have chosen this branch of study as their special pursuit.

"K" Company turned out strong on Wednesday evening at battalion drill. Review will be held on Saturday. It is unfortunate that McGill Rugby match takes place on the same date. Last year the review was held on the day Ottawa College match was played.

CANADIAN INSTITUTE.—The following is the programme for November:—5th, "Snake Poisons," J. H. Garnier, M.D.; 12th, "Note on Old Shore Lines in the Ontario Basin," G. K. Gilbert, U. S. Geological Survey; 19th, "Experiments in Governing Canada," D. A. O'Sullivan, LL. D.; 26th, "Eskimo Race and Language," A. F. Chamberlain, B.A. The Philological Section will meet on the evenings of the 14th and 28th, taking up the study of Phonetics.

THE SECOND ANNUAL CROSS-COUNTRY RUN.—Sixteen athletic students, undergraduates of University College, participated yesterday (Thursday) afternoon in the Varsity cross-country run of five and a quarter miles. W. C. Machell finished first, a quarter of a mile in advance of A. A. Macdonald, who was the second runner to reach the destination. The day was favourable in every particular for the event, and a throng of interested students walked out Yonge street to Oulcott's, at Eglinton, where the course ended and where a pleasant hour was spent around the festive board in Mr. Oulcott's spacious dining-room. About 4 p.m. J. H. Moss started the competitors at the Rosedale Athletic Grounds. They ran along the Don flats to Taylor's first mill, where they struck due north, continuing in that direction until they reached a side line. This road brought them out at Oulcott's. They finished in the following order:—W. C. Machell, time 37:28; A. A. Macdonald, 39:44; P. M. Forren, 39:59; F. McLeay, 40:12; G. H. A. Proctor, 40:50; W. J. Moran, 41:40; G. E. Rykert, 42:00; G. Mickle, H. McLaren, J. B. Pyke, E. C. Acheson, J. O. Miller, E. C. Senkler, G. B. McClean, S. Smith, D. Armour.

Machell finished strong and could have continued the race for a much greater distance. He wins the handsome silver cup offered for competition by S. B. Windrum and also one of the six silver medals which were given as prizes. Armour managed to secure the cake that Mrs. Oulcott generously gives the competitor who comes in at the tail end. Acheson took it last year.

Mr. D. R. Keys presided at the supper table, around which sat a merry company.

The starter was J. H. Moss. J. S. Johnston and J. H. Senkler were judges at the turn, while Mr. Moss acted as judge at the finish. The committee was F. B. Hodgins, J. S. Johnston and F. H. Moss, whose arrangements were perfect.—*Globe*.

Mr. Ralph Ross, B.A., '87, is teaching at Iroquois.

Mr. U. S. Flach, B.A., '87, is at Guelph Training Institute.

"K." Co. picture is not quite finished yet, but every effort will be made to have it finished before May 24th.

We are glad to hear that Mr. R. R. Bensby is recovering from the accident that befell him a few weeks ago, and is now almost out of danger. We hope he will be able to join his class before long.

It is said that the elementary physical laboratory is to be fitted up at an early date, probably this winter, with apparatus for experimenting in electricity; and that then a course in elementary electricity will be substituted for the electrostatics of the fourth year.

President Wilson seems disposed to lament that any increase in the numbers and emoluments of teachers in the university "has been thus far obtained at the costly sacrifice of scholarships and prizes hitherto awarded in the faculties of arts, medicine, and law." He is encouraged, however, by the liberal responses already made to his appeal, to anticipate the replacement of these scholarships and prizes from other sources. This is as it should be. No one can object to having a stream of private liberality turned in this direction. It will, indeed, still remain an open question whether the funds thus devoted could not be turned to much better advantage in endowing needed chairs of instruction, in subjects now neglected or feebly dealt with. But the right of the givers to give in their own way, and for the objects which commend themselves to

their own judgments, is indisputable, while the liberality itself is a matter for congratulation.—*Educational Journal*.

In the recent struggle of contending educators over the question of elective studies, it strikes an observer that due respect has hardly been paid to the discipline of the will. The debate has been carried on almost exclusively with reference to those results of education which are strictly intellectual, man being treated as a receptacle of knowledge. The "fetich" is not altogether, as Mr. Adams suggested, the dead languages, but knowledge itself, a better idol than most, but not so good as the best, and as an idol not good at all. Now, if modern education has any distinguishing principle it is that it is its business to train, enlarge, and invigorate the man in all the parts of him, the integral sum of his faculties. It will be a step forward when it is fairly acknowledged that even with the knowing or understanding faculty the foremost object is to perfect it as an instrument for service, rather than to stimulate or stock it as a recipient of information. But, more than that, there are other powers and capacities stamped with quite as weighty a responsibility as those of apprehension, acquisition, or memory, viz., the moral judgment, conscience, and will. It can hardly be pretended by the most extravagant secularist that hitherto these great forces in a complete manhood have had their share of culture. Where they dwindle or are overshadowed, it is not only the symmetry of a complete individual manhood must suffer; society will be disordered. And the point in the body politic where the disease will be felt first will be that where society finds its safeguard—reverence for right and obedience to law.—*Bishop Huntingdon in the Forum*.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE VARSITY is conducted by undergraduates of the University of Toronto, and will appear every Saturday of the academic year. It aims at being the exponent of the views of the University public, and will always seek the highest interests of our University. The Literary Department will, as heretofore, be a main feature. The news columns are full and accurate, containing reports of all meetings of interest to its readers.

#### NOTICE.

Subscribers are hereby notified that Mr. JAMES DILWORTH is the authorized agent of THE VARSITY Company for the collection of subscription and advertising accounts. He is empowered to receive moneys due to the Company, to give receipts therefor, and to make contracts for the current year.

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Topics of the Hour.

To Our Readers. Year Dinners.

Communication.

Varsity Athletics. W. A. FROST.

Round the Table.

University and College News.

Di-Varsities





Owing to the persistent attempt of numerous cigarette manufacturers to cope in part the Brand Name of the "Richmond Straight Cut." Now in the eleventh year of their popularity, we think it alike due to the protection of the consumer and ourselves, to warn the public against base imitations and call their attention to the fact that the original Straight Cut Brand is the Richmond Straight Cut No. 1, introduced by us in 1875, and to caution the students to observe that our signature appears on every package of the Genuine Straight Cut Cigarettes.

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THE YEAR BOOK

OF THE

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO.

Owing to lack of support, the editors of the Year Book are obliged to discontinue its publication. Last year's edition, being the first, contains a great deal of matter of permanent value. The historical articles are of interest to every University man. The List of Graduates, with P. O. addresses, is still the most complete in existence. A number of copies are still unsold, and may be obtained from

ROWSSELL & HUTCHISON,  
University Printers.

PRICE reduced to 50 cents.

DI-VARSITIES.

"It was pitched without," said a clergyman, having Noah's ark for his theme, and an old base-ball player, who had been calmly slumbering, awoke with a start and yelled, "Foul!" The first bass came down from the choir and put him out.

Professor Proctor figures that the earth is shrinking about two inches a year. That accounts for the nervous anxiety manifested by some people to possess it while it is of some size.—*Buffalo Express.*

It isn't the man with the biggest library who is the best informed. Generally he has to yield gracefully to the man who has only a dozen books, and reads 'em.—*Somerville Journal.*

AMERICAN TOURIST (to interpreter):—"Ask the clerk if Mr. Rousseau is in." Interpreter: "Est-ce que M. Rousseau est chez lui?" Clerk: "Non, monsieur, M. Rousseau n'est pas en ville. Il est alle a Tonnere, en Gascogne." Interpreter (to American tourist): "He says that Mr. Rousseau is not in. He has gone to thunder in Gascony."

A Boston family went off on a vacation, and the neighbours saw a cat in the window and heard it mew piteously. The Humane Society broke into the house, and rescued the feline from starvation. It was a plaster of Paris cat.—*Detroit Free Press.*

In an advertisement by a railway company of some uncalled for goods, the letter "l" dropped from the word lawful, and it read: "People to whom these packages are directed are requested to come forward and pay the awful charges on the same."

Statistics show that girls who work in a match factory do not get married any quicker than those who work at other places.—*Pittsburgh Chronicle.*

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