

M. Nairn W. H.



THE VARSITY

VOL. XVIII.

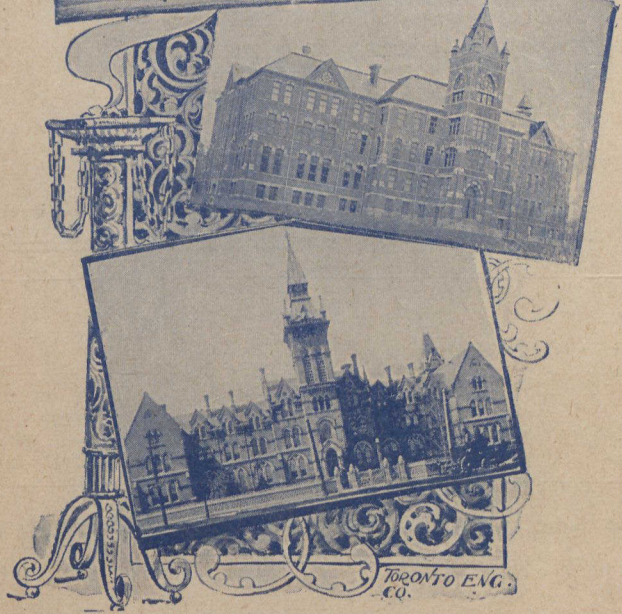
No. 12

University of Toronto.

TORONTO, JANUARY 18TH, 1899

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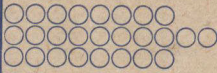
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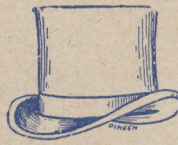
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THE VARSITY

A Weekly Journal of Literature, University Thought and Events.

VOL. XVIII.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, JANUARY 18, 1899.

No. 12

HESPERUS.

O, quiet star, that o'er the blue-gray hills
Dost mark the peaceful close of waning day,
Staying a moment all the varied ills,
That daily hedge about us in the way;
Thou from thy cool, blue height hast watched o'er all—
All the upheavals of our infant race,
Hast marked the rise of empires, and their fall,
Into the dust that paved their native place.
Of all this wondrous lore of human-kind,
Of all thy knowledge gleaned through centuries,
The secrets that I vainly seek to find,
The view that never greets my heavy eyes,
Could I but grasp a fragment, I should know,
Volumes of knowledge unkennd here below.

W. HARVEY McNAIRN.

SPECIALIZATION.

A reference to the curriculum of an American High School or University (and American here might be replaced by Canadian), reveals nothing more remarkable than the great number and variety of subjects of study. A comparison with the curricula of the English Public Schools and the English Universities serves but to emphasize this characteristic of school life in the Western Hemisphere. Moreover, a member of any School Board or University corporation is painfully aware that many additional subjects should find admission to those curricula, or at least many interested persons think they should.

It is man's peculiar greatness—or shall it be called foible?—never to forget a subject in which in any age he has been interested. To the natural accretions of centuries, we owe then, many of our modern school subjects. Through the ages—with wonderful rapidity in these last years—civilization has developed in very elaborate and complicated forms. Myriads of new interests have been created for man; myriads of new avenues for his thoughts and sympathies have been discovered by him. This, too, has given him new school subjects. Particularly fertile in such new subjects has been and is the marvelous organization and development of his material energies. To the bleak and soulless stimulus of dollars and cents the well-swollen modern curricula owe much.

It must not be thought that the dangers in this expansion have escaped the eye of the educationist; or, for that matter, of the medical man, the afflicted student, and the ratepayer. These dangers have been recognized, and efforts more or less effective have been put forth to meet them. Many American teachers, and German too, say, with their master, Herbart, "we'll concentrate these subjects, we'll co-ordinate and co-

relate them into an organic whole. All knowledge, all sciences shall be an organized entity, a unit." Or, to put it concretely, the child catching the sounds and characters of his earliest reading-lesson, shall in that reading-lesson, implicitly, of course, introduce himself to the mysteries of Grammar, Literature, Arithmetic, Geography, Science, etc. Of late, another step has been taken to meet these dangers. The numberless subjects have been grouped and classified. In the various years of the course of the High School or the University, these groups or classes—arranged, it is true, to suit the various factors in the youth's mental development—one by one are met and mastered. They disappear forever from the student's course, and alas, forever from the student's life. In this division of labor, there is indeed some degree of comfort to the over-burdened student. But a more effective remedy still has been found. Conscious of the student's inability to bear—like the encyclopedic scholars of the Middle Ages—the weight of all the modern sciences; conscious, too, of the illimitable field that even a single concrete subject may present—for did not Browning's Grammarian live a long and pathetic life of fruitless enquiry into the nature of a few Greek particles?—conscious of these facts, the scholastic world has *specialized*. In very recent years it has specialized *early*, and if it may be said, specialized *minutely*.

The principle of specialization dare not be attacked. It has evolved itself naturally—the logical and necessary resultant of forces that do and must exist in modern life.

But while this much has been said, it must be added that specialization itself has its dangers no less to be dreaded than those of the multiplicity of subjects. Reference cannot be made here to that shibboleth of modern educationists—the faculties of man—and the necessity of nurturing each faculty with its peculiar food. Nor need reference be made to the mind's reasoning processes (be they inductive, deductive, transcendental, or what they may), and to the significance of the various subjects to these processes.

It may be plainly stated—and will be without doubt frankly accepted—that a training exclusively confined to the natural sciences, to hypotheses, concrete facts, and generalization, will leave the mind out of harmony with some of the interests of modern culture; that a training exclusively confined to linguistics will very imperfectly adjust the man to all the conditions of his material world; that a training exclusively mathematical, with its postulates and axioms, its supersensual world of thought and action, can in only a narrow sense leave a student fitted to perform equably, justly, and magnanimously the duties of the man and the citizen. In brief, specialization, when it means mathematics alone, or Science alone, or languages alone, cannot give a liberal education.

There is another, and perhaps more disagreeable feature in this tendency towards specialization. As we have suggested, specialization is in one sense a result of the widening material interests and energies of the day. Does any new avenue of material progress open up to us Moderns—immediately we insert in our curricula the Science that may be said to exploit that avenue. Is the nation dependent upon its agricultural interests? Let us have scientific agriculture in our Colleges. Do we see in our mines a source of unequalled revenue? Let us specialize in Mineralogy. Or, are we to be a commercial people? Then surely we shall give years to the study of the modern languages. To the young man who enters College with his interests wrapped up wholly in the Church, Metaphysics, Ethics and Hebrew stand forth as the only subjects that will meet his needs. To the prospective lawyer there is nothing good but Political Science; while the ambitious medical student despises all but the "experiment, observation, conclusion," of his Science course.

Far be it from any man to condemn the appearance of Science, or Languages, or Philosophy, or Mathematics in the curricula of our Colleges; far be it from any man to belittle these subjects in their vast significance to the development of the race. What must be condemned is the materialistic spirit of the student—his practical, shall it be said, mercenary spirit. With the cry "cui bono" on his lips, he examines each department in the curriculum. Which department will meet my case? Give me practical, professional skill as lawyer, doctor, engineer! Fie upon all other subjects! What must be condemned, too, is the conscious sympathy shown such students by modern curricula. To him who falsely thinks that Science alone constitutes a liberal education, to him Science alone is given. To him who sees in Mathematics or Languages the "open sesame" to success, Mathematics or Languages alone become the scene of intellectual struggles.

These are difficulties that must be met, and to meet them successfully it is probable that the age and its tendencies must first be transformed. Within man's breast a new heart must be created, and a right spirit renewed. The youth must enter upon his student course convinced that education gives primarily power, not professional skill; is of things spiritual, not mechanical.

But in what practical ways may we meet these difficulties?

They may be met, it is true, by a broader, deeper, and more liberal standard for admission to Colleges. In many ways our admission standards are already higher than those of England or Germany, but the student body of these European countries, from the peculiarities of its social status, enters College with a wider and richer degree of culture than we dare look for in this new world.

Or, we may postpone the year and occasion of specialization. And here—acknowledging as we must that the courses are already as extensive as the four years would justify—we are come face to face with the question: "Shall we postpone specialization at the expense of a narrowed range in our special subject?"

Many American Colleges have replied in the affirmative. "Leave," they seem to say, "leave minute specialization to the student in his own library or laboratory, leave it to postgraduate work, leave it to travel and research in other centres."

In any case, it is a question that is well worth considering, before we go farther on that ever-increasing tide towards specialization. Why should specialization be complete in the Second, Third, or Fourth, or any year? Why should it ever be complete? Can we not meet some of the dangers of minute and early specialization by counterbalancing the chosen subject or department with other subjects and other departments? Why should not the course in Mathematics, or Chemistry and physics, or Chemistry and Mineralogy be rounded out in the Second, Third, and Fourth years by some training in the humanities—even if it be only English? Why should not English, even to the extent of Honors, be compulsory in all years to all candidates? Candidates spend years in familiarizing themselves with the words and idioms of a new language—years merely in mastering the approaches to a new universe—the thought of a foreign people. Why should they not be asked to enter that universe? Why should not the language student have a larger and more intelligent interest in the world of the Science student? Why should not the Mathematical mind occasionally leave its supersensual world of abstract certainties, and dwell in the world of sense with its possibilities? It is a liberal education that is sought—not bread-winning power—not primarily scholarship.

GRADUATE.

A BICYCLE NYMPH.

I was wheeling along a country road one glorious summer evening, just at dusk, and had arrived about six miles from the city, when I noticed by the road-side the figure of a woman. It was too dark to allow me to distinguish her features, and so all I could clearly determine was that it was a woman, and in evident distress.

With the spirit of gallantry I at once dismounted and was about to enquire if I could assist her in any way, when I recognized in her a former friend, with whom I was once very intimate; but a slight misunderstanding had put an end to all our friendly relations.

I saw, at once, that I could do nothing but treat her as I would a total stranger, so I raised my hat, and, with all the politeness I could summon, asked if I could assist her in any way.

I was sure that she recognized me, but she, too, had evidently decided to follow my plan, and replied in a very sweet manner, "My tire is punctured, I think, and I would be very much obliged if you would help me mend it."

"I will be glad to try," I said.

"I am sorry to trouble you," she returned, "but I have an engagement which it is important I should keep."

That ended our very formal conversation, and in a few moments I noticed she had wandered over to my wheel and was examining it, as I thought, to escape the embarrassment of having to talk to me any more than was absolutely necessary.

By means of the light of my bicycle lamp I soon found the puncture and mended it, and she returned to get her wheel, thanked me simply, but *very* sweetly, took it from me, and rode away.

I had almost summoned up sufficient courage to ask her if I might ride home with her, when I saw that she had already gone some fifty yards.

"Confound it," I said, half desperately, "I'll ride after her;" and with that I jumped on my wheel and soon overtook my fair "scorcher."

"Pardon me, but may I accompany you—" but here I was interrupted by my back wheel going bump—bump—on the road, and I realized that I had had the bad luck to have a puncture, too.

My former lady-love pretended not to have noticed me, and rode on as if nothing had happened.

I went energetically to work at the puncture, which by the way, looked strangely like a pin-hole, but by the time I had it mended she was far out of sight, so I rode to the city by myself, cursing my ill-luck to have an accident at such a fortuitous moment, when I foresaw the possibility of "patching up" matters between Miss McPherson and myself.

That she was pretty, everyone admitted; that she was simply "sweet" all the "girls" declared, and that she was very lovable more than several men had sworn. I was only awakened from my "thoughts of love" by hearing the gong of a trolley-car, going bang-bang, advising me not to run over it.

I spent quite a philosophical hour when I got home, musing on the total incapability of the human mind to appreciate an opportunity quick enough to take full advantage of it. A most notable example of this, of course, was my own case; however, I declared that another opportunity in the same direction would not be lost, and prayed that it might come soon.

Contrary, also, to the conclusions I had arrived at the night previous, another did come, and in a very peculiar and unexpected manner. On the following day, this note arrived by post:

Toronto, Aug. 24th, 1898.

Miss M. McPherson,

Dr.

To J. W. Jacoby,

To repairing *two* punctures75c.

and enclosed was a cheque for the amount.

I appreciated it at once, as a joke, and a good one, too; but what I could not understand was her saying that I repaired *two* punctures, for she had only *one*. This bothered me for some time; when I finally understood all—the little vixen must have punctured my wheel, and probably to prevent my riding home with her; then I remembered how much like a pin-hole the puncture seemed, and felt convinced.

Considering the jocular manner that was evident in the "bill," I considered this *another* opportunity, and soon determined not to lose it. The course I took the following note will suffice to show:

Dear Miss McPherson,—

Yours of the 24th instant received, and also the enclosed cheque, but I regret to say that the latter could not be cashed. I will not press payment, however, but hope you will see fit to call upon my services at some future date.

Yours respectfully,

J. W. Jacoby.

P.S.—I might mention that I have followed the maxim that "Prevention is better than cure," by innovating a new method of "repair." I call on my customers once or twice a week, or as much oftener as desired, to examine their wheels; and would be very

pleased to have your patronage. Tel. 3471 will reach me.

J. W. J.

I hoped for the best from this, since I felt quite sure that her evident joking humor was a woman's shrewd way of trying to melt the icy barrier that had stood between us since our altercation.

Several days, however, passed; and during this time I had hardly gone out of hearing of the telephone bell, but still no request for my service; on the fourth day, however, a woman's voice, quite unfamiliar, enquired if I had any engagement for that evening. I was about to reply "yes," (being, of course, engaged to watch the telephone), when the same unknown voice in the interval of my hesitancy, asked if I could come up and examine Miss McPherson's wheel for her.

I felt my heart beat faster, but I controlled myself, and replied that I *thought* I would be able to go.

The young lady, whoever she was, thanked me and rang off.

Of course I was *able*.

I was ushered into the parlor and had waited about five minutes when Miss McPherson entered the room. As her eyes met mine, a deep blush spread over her beautiful face, and she smiled slightly as she said, hesitatingly:

"It was good of you to come to see my wheel I hope you did not have to break any other engagement."

"No," I said; "but I am afraid I would not have come if I had not had some hope of seeing the owner of the wheel as well."

She remained silent, looking down at the floor, and evidently as much embarrassed as I.

And here again I set aside my brave philosophy that man had not the power to grasp an opportunity; for, if I *ever* took advantage of one, it was at this very moment of which I am speaking.

I walked over to where she was standing, and, with no resistance on her part, took hold of both her hands and said, in as gay tone as I could command,

"Come! Mary, let us forget the past, your little "bill" and everything, and ride once more along that smooth and happy road of friendship."

With no small self-control and a becoming hesitancy, she replied, pleasantly, "All right, Jack—but come and see my wheel first."

The road was smooth after that, and the same evening I had one of the most enjoyable rides of my life.

The following week I called *once* or *twice*; the next *three* or *four* times. I forget which; and now? Well, now it is one perpetual call, for we are riding a tandem every day along the smooth (so far), road of matrimony.

Yes, the bicycle is a great invention!

"SALVATOR" '99.

V. E. Henderson was appointed Convener of the Natural Science Exhibit Committee by the Executive of the Society.

The Varsity Senior Hockey Team meet the Wellington's to-morrow night in the Mutual street rink, in the return match. A good swift game is assured, and it is hoped there will be a large turnout to cheer our boys on to victory.

The News

CALENDAR.

Friday, January 20th, 4 p.m.—Math. and Physical Society, Room 16. (1) "Interference Phenomena of Light," J. L. Hogg, '99. (2) "Mathematics under the Greeks," F. A. Wood, '01. 8 p.m.—Open Debate, Varsity vs. McMaster. 8 p.m.—Hockey Match, Varsity vs. Wellingtons, Mutual St. Rink.

Saturday, January 21st, 3 p.m.—Lecture on "Cuba," John A. Ewan, Chemical Building. 8 p.m.—"Vacation Notes in Biology," Prof. Ramsay Wright, Canadian Institute.

Monday, January 23rd, 8 p.m.—Concert, Grenville Kleiser, Association Hall.

Wednesday, January 25th.—Lecture on "Egypt," Hon. David Mills, University College.

MOCK PARLIAMENT A GREAT SUCCESS.

The first meeting of the Lit., after the holidays, proved to be a most enjoyable and interesting affair to the large crowd that turned out. The meeting came to order with President Wickett in the chair. After some preliminary business, Askworth moved that the Conversat. committees, as published in the last issue of THE VARSITY, be accepted, with the addition of W. A. R. Kerr, as Chairman of that most important of committees, the Refreshment Committee, and of G. W. Ross to the Reception Committee. John McKay and W. F. McKay were agreed upon as Varsity's representatives against McMaster, in the Inter-Collegiate debate next Friday. Patterson then reported that McGill wanted a Varsity man to help make their Conversat. a success, so "Billy" Alexander was un-animously elected for this pleasant duty.

At this juncture, Dr. Wickett introduced Mr. Reeves, a graduate of '94, to the Society, and the latter gentleman at once put himself on the best of terms with the boys by a neat and happy speech. Among other things, he said that the training he had received at the Literary Society, when a student, had been of lasting and material benefit to him out in the world. He also emphasized this by adding that his was only the experience of many of Canada's best known men.

The meeting then adjourned, and resolved itself into a Mock Parliament. Mr. Reeves was elected speaker, and, with the Sergeant-at-Arms, Gen. Lucas, leading, the stupendous cavalcade of mind and eloquence took their seats to the right of the speaker, amid the derisive cries of the Opposition (and Third Party—not to mention "Sandy" McLeod's P. P. A.'s.).

To the right of the Hon. Speaker were seen Sir Harold Fisher, K.C.B., Premier; Hon. F. Smith, Hon. Richard Valiant Le Sueur, Hon. W. H. McNairn—the eminent Minister of Agriculture, and also many other notables.

To the Speaker's left were John Jefferson Monds, leader of the Opposition; William Hardy Alexander, Thomas Arthur Russel, Mr. Poynter, and others. And in front of the Speaker were the Independents, or Third Party, led by Arthur Walter Keith; and finally

the Fourth Party, P. P. A.'s, commanded by Colonel "Sandy" McLeod, V.C., and Albert Leander Burch, D.C.

Everyone, including the Speaker, entered from the first into the spirit of the affair, and all the speeches were redolent with flights of oratory and rhetoric seldom heard outside the town-council chamber. Argument and invective were interspersed with the grossest personalities and vilest accusations and insinuations, according to the recognized Parliamentary procedure.

McKay, of the First Year, made his maiden speech, and a good one, too—in moving the address from the throne, and Allan, another of the same, eloquently seconded it. John Monds then followed, and in order after him, Keith, Fisher, Alexander, Donovan, Garvey, Russel, "Sandy" McLeod (P. P. A.), McLean, Kylie, Burch, H. McLean, J. B. Hunter, and Geo. Kay.

It is safe to say that no better speaking has been heard at the Lit. for years. The speeches, almost without exception, were well put together, and splendidly delivered, with the full appreciation of the situation that was productive of much excellent and ready wit.

It is to be greatly hoped that the Executive will decide to hold continued sessions of the Parliament of Canada, for there is no better training or opportunity offered for learning to speak readily and retort accurately and appropriately, than at such a meeting. And may we venture another suggestion, which is, that instead of a public Debate, the Executive will call a session of the now renowned Parliament, at which the public shall be admitted. We are sure this would prove a most interesting form of entertainment.

NOTES OF THE STRUGGLE.

Mr. Reeves' retorts, as Speaker, were remarkably witty and felicitous. The thanks of all are due him for the great part he contributed towards the enjoyment of the evening.

Wm. Harvey McNairn, as Minister of Agriculture, was especially good. He came equipped with his great grandfather's carpet bag, filled with the products of the farm.

"Sandy" McLeod, leader of the P. P. A.'s, had hard work convincing the last-named Minister that a potato was really a turnip.

Fisher's retorts were very clever, and Burch will probably remember one of them.

A. W. Keith made a good speech, in which he tore the Government to pieces, and especially directed his attention to the Hon. Member for the Klondike, Mr. Garvey.

"Sandy" McLeod's maiden speech at the Lit. won great applause.

We are glad to see that the Freshmen have a number of good speakers.

The advent of a Third Party was productive of a good deal of merriment.

The Government was only defeated by a dastardly combination of the so-called Independents and the P. P. A.'s with the Opposition.

The annual Dinner of the Old Boys of U. C. C. will take place at St. George's Hall, on Tuesday evening, January 31st. Tickets may be obtained from "Bob." Waldie.

THE HALLOWE'EN CLUB.

Shortly before Christmas a mass meeting was called for the formation of a Dramatic Society. At this meeting a Nominating Committee was appointed to choose the officers for the Club. This committee met last Friday, and selected the following men: President, J. G. Merrick, B.A.; Vice-President, W. A. R. Kerr, '99; Secretary, F. D. McEntee, '99; Treasurer, Mr. Brophy, '01. At this meeting it was agreed that the term "Dramatic Society" was not comprehensive enough, so it was decided to call the Club the "Hallowe'en Club."

The objects of this Club shall finally, of course, be the production of a play each Hallowe'en, but it will also endeavor to give men an opportunity to study public speaking, under the instruction of a good tutor. To that end a capable man will be employed soon, to teach the members of this Society voice culture and public speaking.

It will be readily seen that such a Club would be able to prepare comediettas for our open debates and other functions, and in many ways add to the interest and enjoyment of these affairs by the presentation of them.

The officers chosen form an energetic and able committee, who are enthusiastic over the enterprise, and it is safe to say that they will leave no stone unturned to make the "Hallowe'en Club" a great success. Judging from the support already had, the undergraduates are greatly interested in the undertaking, and it certainly merits, not only the moral, but active support of all.

CHESS CLUB.

Last Wednesday night a very energetic and well-attended meeting of the Chess Club was held.

It was decided to hold two tournaments (an open and a handicap), the open tournament to begin immediately.

The winner of the Open Tournament will hold the Championship Cup for one year, and will also be the recipient of a suitable prize.

N. S. Shenstone, '01, was the winner of the cup last year.

The match with the Athenaeum on Saturday night resulted in favor of Varsity. The following is the score:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Prof. Jas. Mavor, $\frac{1}{2}$. | Mr. W. Boulton, $\frac{1}{2}$. |
| N. S. Shenstone, $\frac{1}{2}$. | Mr. Freeland, $\frac{1}{2}$. |
| R. G. Hunter, $\frac{1}{2}$. | Mr. Braithwaite, $\frac{1}{2}$. |
| S. F. Shenstone, 1. | Mr. Eddis, 0. |
| Mr. Brethour (Med), 0. | Mr. Taylor, 1. |
| Mr. W. G. Browne (Grad.), 0. | Mr. Reinart, 1. |
| Mr. Bradley (Grad.), 1. | Mr. Greenwood, 0. |
| Mr. A. W. Keith, 1. | Mr. Austin, 0. |
| F. E. Brown, $\frac{1}{2}$. | Mr. McIntyre, $\frac{1}{2}$. |
| Mr. Banwell, 1. | Mr. Clark, 0. |
| Mr. Forbes, 0. | Mr. Butler, 1. |

Score, 6 vs. 5, in favor of Varsity.

It is expected to play the Y.M.C.A. Club within a few days.

Prof. Ramsay Wright will lecture at the Canadian Institute on "General Biology Notes." All undergraduates interested will be welcomed. The lecture will begin at 8 o'clock.

OPEN DEBATE FRIDAY NIGHT.

Varsity will meet McMaster in the Inter-Collegiate Debating Series to-morrow night. McMaster will send Messrs. McDonald and Hartness to do battle with John McKay and W. F. McKay—Varsity's two doughty representatives.

In addition to the debate, a splendid programme will be given, consisting of vocal and instrumental music, by Messrs. Knox, Gorrie and Hardy, '02. Frank Cook, '99, will give the reading.

An interesting debate is expected, and a good time generally. It is to be hoped that the students will turn out in good numbers and give our men every encouragement to win.

THE CONVERSAT.

The Executive Committee of the Literary Society are about to introduce another very commendable feature into the Conversazione. This is to be in the form of a Graduate Reception. The purpose of such is to afford an opportunity to intercourse and acquaintance-ship between the Alumni and the Faculty, and the undergraduate body.

With this end in view, an excellent committee of graduates has been appointed to look after the matter. The committee consists of: Chairman, A. Delury, B.A., Dean; Secretary, F. A. Hunt, B.A.; Treasurer, J. G. Merrick, B.A.; Committee, L. McDougall, B.A. (Ottawa); W. M. Boulton, B.A.; W. M. Martin, B.A., (Hamilton), and O. M. Biggar, B.A.

NEWS NOTES.

The financial report of the Dinner Committee is about even.

The last issue of the *McGill Outlook* congratulates the late Editor of THE VARSITY, Mr. Kerr, on his splendid Christmas number.

Mr. F. H. Scott, B.A., '97, read a very interesting paper on "Nerve Cells, and Their Chemistry," at the Canadian Institute, last Saturday night. This is the subject he has been studying since graduation, and it will form the subject of his thesis for his Ph.D. degree.

Y.M.C.A.

Last Sunday the Y.M.C.A. held the first Sunday sermon this year, under its auspices, in the Students' Union. The intention at first was to hold but one each year, but the splendid support which the Faculty, and especially the undergraduates, men and women, have given the committee, may induce them to hold a series. Prof. Hague must surely have been gratified at such a large number of students being present, and we feel sure that the latter thoroughly appreciated the Professor's earnest and intellectual address.

He took as his text, "I know Whom I have believed," and proceeded to show the prevalence and the fallacy of agnosticism. This constituted the basis of his talk. He strongly urged University men, whom he said were the hope of the coming age, to investigate all things thoroughly before subscribing to any theory, whether in agreement or disagreement with their own beliefs.

The Varsity

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TORONTO, JANUARY 8, 1899.

SPECIALIZATION.

THE UNDERGRADUATE STANDPOINT.

The subject of early specialization has been causing a great deal of controversy in the Educational and Miscellaneous periodicals for some time past, and we publish in this issue an article on this most interesting and important subject, by a prominent graduate. We wish, however, to treat the subject from the point of view of an undergraduate.

When a student first comes to the University, he is offered the choice of eleven honor departments of study, to one of which he must entrust himself for four years for the attainment of that intellectual training and mental equipment for which he is seeking.

He may choose Mathematics, Classics, Natural Science, or any one course, but he must also resign himself to the fact that his mental diet will be practically the same for four years, with but little of the spice of variety.

Space will not allow us to consider the departments individually; we, however, think it is unnecessary. All undergraduates know that each course is confined or restricted to its own special subjects, and that but little digression is offered.

It is frankly and gladly admitted, that the Honor departments in the University of Toronto furnish a thorough, and perhaps unequalled course of undergraduate instruction. We have no better evidence of this than the fact that for many years past our graduates have gone abroad and carried everything before them in their special departments at other Universities. But at what price is this excellence in one special branch of study bought? Is it not at the sacrifice of a certain culture or breadth of knowledge which is the mould in which a University man is usually considered to be cast?

It may be urged that all the departments are freely open to any student should he wish to study any of

their subjects, but is it not assuredly true that the work in each special course is so heavy, that it is possible only for even the best of students to cover the work in his course in one academic year.

We do not wish to obtrude our humble opinion on this broad subject, but when many of the best-known and most highly-reputed educators so emphatically express themselves on this subject, each of us must stop to think.

Nicholas Murray Butler, in his introduction to Paulsen's German Universities, says: "One danger, common to all Universities, lies in the expressive specialization which is so warmly recommended to University students. *Its inevitable result is loss of ability to see things in their proper proportions, as well as loss of sympathy with learning as a whole.* Perhaps the division of labor cannot be carried too far for the value of the product, but certainly it can be carried too far for the good of the laborer. Signs are not wanting that this narrowing of view and sympathy is already taking place. . . . What Science and practical life alike need is not narrow men, but broad men sharpened to a point. To train such is the highest function of a University."

Again, in the *Educational Review* of September last, Wm. T. Harris said: "The new field of specialization is in no sense the substitute for the other field, that of the mastery of the lessons of human learning. Higher education seeks as its first goal the unity of human learning. Then, in its second stage, it specializes. It first studies each branch in the light of all others."

Both these men express themselves in no doubtful terms, and the latter even goes so far as to add that specialization should only succeed an Arts degree.

It is intensely interesting to consider the position of the University of Toronto, in the University world, by even a cursory comparison with the Universities of other countries.

In Germany, a student graduates from the Gymnasium at eighteen years of age, and proceeds to the University. Although he possesses a good general foundation, he does not specialize in the University, but proceeds along general lines to a degree. After he obtains this, he may devote his attention to one special branch if he desires, but only on the foundation of a general learning.

In England, culture has become so much the keynote of University education that it has become proverbial, "if you want culture, go to an English University."

In the United States almost all of the large Universities now present the elective system, which offers not a dozen—but literally hundreds of courses—and effectually prevents specialization, unless a student really desires it. This seems to approach nearer that

ideal of the curriculum adjusting itself to the individual, rather than the individual to the curriculum, than any other system.

Since the advent of Dr. Peterson, McGill does not specialize until the beginning of the third year, and Queen's presents a system, in a minor degree, elective.

Individuality or independence of action is often commended as a virtue, but when the University of Toronto is practically unique in this respect, in the great University world, we stop and wonder are we right? The weight of comparative evidence would seem to say no! And the undergraduate opinion of the final year, as nearly as we can gauge it, also says no! This opinion was arrived at in conversation with representative men in almost all of the courses. Among these were some of the strongest men at Varsity, and we found a prevailing feeling of regret that the courses were so confined or restricted, although almost all signified their great satisfaction with the excellence of specialized work in their own department.

It may be urged that the mental training, given in any course, furnishes the key to any branch of learning, should the graduate have the desire. That may be so, but how much better would it be if, as well as being provided with this "key to knowledge," he had the doors of a number of departments of knowledge even opened to him, whether he searched in their inmost recesses or not. If he wished to make himself familiar with any subject, he could approach it with a certain feeling of familiarity, and not with that feeling of strangeness which breeds reticence.

In all the courses, with one exception, there is allowed at least two hours a week for this "outside work," during the second, third and fourth years. We believe that if four hours a week in addition were allowed, by each Honor Course, practically all the advantages of mental training would be retained for the student, with but little detriment to his special knowledge. Moreover, the student would be introduced into the study of a number of subjects, in each of which he would learn its elements, scope and methods of study. This would allow him to approach the subject intelligently at any future time. Such a result would more nearly approach what the great Virchow has said should be the aim of all University education, namely: "The giving of scientific and moral culture with the mastery of one special department of study." Or, as someone else has said: "Something of everything, and everything of something."

We have endeavored to express the undergraduate opinion as fairly and as respectfully as we have been able, and add the hope that the Faculty and Senate will take into consideration that alteration of the Honor Courses, which will remove any feeling of regret on the part of graduating students, that, though they are familiar with the corners and details of one room of the great House of Knowledge, they have hardly even glanced into any of the many other rooms.

Athletics

THE HOCKEY VICTORY.

The Hockey Team met with a splendid victory, instead of the half-expected defeat, when they played the Wellingtons on Friday night. The forward line received a valuable addition in Broder, a Freshman from Morrisburg. Snell and Waldie have played with the team throughout the past three seasons, and Sheppard for the last seven. Alec. Mackenzie proved a veritable stumbling-block at point, and Darling maintained his reputation of being one of the most effective and original of cover-points that the country has produced. The defence, Waldie (goal), Mackenzie and Darling, is the strongest that has ever represented the University. The forward line is also very strong. Sheppard played the same hard game that he has always done; Snell, Isbister and Broder worked a splendid combination. These three pass freely and well, and show none of the selfishness that so often characterizes good players. No one of the three, however, is accustomed to play the boards. The outlook for the team this year is exceedingly bright.

THE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

It has been my intention for some time past to give a paragraph to the discussion of this important organization, to point out some of the weaker features in its constitution and management, and to invite some discussion of how it may be strengthened and improved. If anyone has any suggestions to make, I wish he would address to me a short letter for publication. The first point to which I wish to call attention is that the Athletic Association has never attained to that position of paramount power and importance which its original promoters expected it to take. They expected (if am correctly informed), it to take the direct control of the finances and affairs of the various Athletic Clubs of the University. Thus, if the Rugby Club offended against the standard of the University by playing outsiders, the Association could punish it by depriving it of the right to bear the University name and use the University grounds. Again, there are certain Athletic Clubs, such as the Rugby Club, which are likely to have a more or less considerable balance on the right side of their accounts, while Track Athletics are just as sure to cause a deficit. Now, if the Athletic Association controlled the finances of the other clubs, the surplus from football would wipe out the deficit from Track Athletics. To many this would not seem fair; but is it any more unjust than to cause those who wish to use the Gymnasium to pay for it.

The second point to which I wish to call attention is that by the present method of electing officers, it may happen that the control of the Association is put into the hands of men who have had no previous experience, who know nothing of the previous history, methods and ideals of the Association which they are to guide and direct. It is only, I think, on account of the marked ability of those who have in the past been put into such a situation that the Athletic Association has prospered as it has done.

THE REFEREE.

The College Girl

The meeting of the Y.W.C.A. on Tuesday, Jan. 10th, was well attended, considering the number of girls who had come back to enjoy the sad realities of life. It being the first meeting of the month, the meeting was of a missionary character. Miss Harrison read an interesting paper on "Individual Responsibility in Missions." Miss C. Macdonald followed with extracts from a pamphlet, entitled "Prayer in Missions," and Mr. Haslam occupied the rest of the hour in describing the work of a band of students during the Christmas holidays.

The Bible Study Class will be resumed on January 22nd, with Dr. Tracy as leader.

Our first Literary meeting of the New Year was very well attended. In place of the absent President and Vice-President, Miss Woolverton acted as Chairman. The minutes having been read and adopted, Miss Harris opened the programme with a piano solo. Miss Lick's rendering of two good old songs called forth hearty applause. The political report of the great moves made during December was ably drawn up by Miss Cowan, '96; the summary consisted of the following facts: The United States have taken their place as a colonial power; Spain lies crushed and stunned under her losses; France is progressing towards a new political revolution; and England, her supremacy reestablished and impressed upon the nations, has become reconciled to her disobedient daughter, and has upheld her in her first struggle with the world, so that between them there is now no more war, but peace, and it is as it should be, the two English-speaking races are at one. Miss Nettie Miller then treated us to a number of popular pieces on the piano; and Miss Austin represented our Glee Club in a vocal solo. Representing the literary achievements of the month, Miss Osyth Cole dealt with Rostand's play "Cyrano de Bergerac." A short story of the writer served to arouse interest in the careful and interesting outline of the play which followed it.

In view of the approaching reception, which is to be held on February 4th, the various committees were appointed:

Reception.—Misses Cleary, Johnston, Patterson, Burgess, Downey, D. F. Wright, Hughes, Forrest, Grace MacDonald,

Printing.—Patterson, Grant, Lang.

Tea-Room.—Easson, Street, Marshall, Dickson, Watt, Benson, Turner, L. M. Wright, Baird, M. E. Mason.

Decoration.—B. B. White, Bilton, Fraser, L. M. Wright, Crane, Hutchison, Forrest, Cole, L. M. Mason, Lawson, Cleary, Morrison.

Refreshment.—Tennant, Wegg, Lang, Woolverton, Cole, Conlin, Wallace, King, Grant, Cole, '00.

Music.—Hutchison, M. E. Mason.

Programme.—Tennant, Wegg, L. K. White, Darling.

In a clever little farce, entitled, "A Slight Mistake," five of our Freshies won enthusiastic applause. The Misses Marshall, Mott, Burt, King and Wallace, were the brave maidens.

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Oh—

When your youthful cheeks are tinted,
With the faintest fuzz of hair,
And your upper lip has hinted,
That a moustache *may* be there,
Then you mix a mighty lather,
With a manly air, and grave,
For you feel important, rather;
When you find you've got to shave.

But—

When, in after years your bristle,
With a whisker, dense and dire,
That is prickly as a thistle,
And as coarse as trolley wire,
And your razor, 'mid the stubble,
Makes you rip, and rant, and rave,
It's a certain sign of trouble,
When you find you've got to shave.

FEMINA.

At the Mock Parliament last Friday night the proposed air-line to Collingwood had been thoroughly discussed. Towards the close of the proceedings, a member of the Government lost his dignity so much as to throw a piece of potato at the member from Timbuctoo, on the Opposition side of the house. This brought from the Speaker the remark that "the house would much prefer that the members would not use the 'air-line' for the transmission of potatoes."

The dearth of women, and the keenness with which this is felt by the miner, was well-illustrated by a story which Mr. Wade told on Saturday. A miner came across a woman's bonnet, which he nailed above his cabin-door, and placed a sign beneath it, reading thus: "What we hope for some day."

The "Meds." expressed their appreciation of a lecture in a very laconic way, a while ago.

The Professor put up a notice that he would not be able to lecture to-day, and written beneath this was simply, "God Save the Queen."

Welcome to nineteen-two!
We pity them, don't you?
They never can evade
The thing they '02 do.

KLEISER CONCERT.

Arrangements have been completed for the Grenville Kleiser Students' Concert. It will take place in Association Hall, on Monday, January 23rd. Mr. Kleiser has generously afforded his services gratis for the entertainment of the students that evening. From the enthusiasm manifested, we would judge that a large audience will show our appreciation of his kindness. Tickets at a nominal price (just sufficient to defray the expense of hiring the hall, etc.), may be obtained from the committee or from the Janitor.

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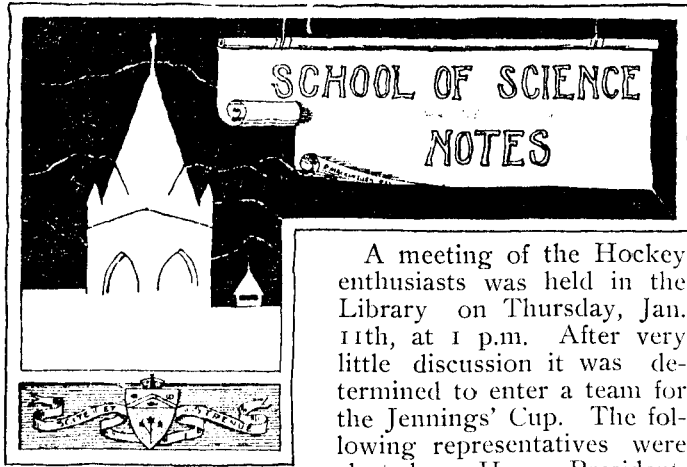
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A meeting of the Hockey enthusiasts was held in the Library on Thursday, Jan. 11th, at 1 p.m. After very little discussion it was determined to enter a team for the Jennings' Cup. The following representatives were elected: Hon. President,

Mr. W. J. Jennings; President, C. H. C. Wright; Sec.-Treas., H. Boehmer; Manager, Donald A. Ross; Third Year Representative, G. F. Revell; Second Year Representative, J. L. Davidson; First Year Representative, F. Ritchie.

The Hockey Club would like everybody to turn out to practice, so that they can tell what material they have on hand.

The regular meeting of the Engineering Society was held on Wednesday, January 11th, at 8 p.m. Mr. Richards read a very instructive paper on "High Pressure in Steam Boilers," and D. A. Ross, B.A. a bright and interesting paper on "Surveying in the Crow's Nest Pass." After the reading of the papers, a long discussion was held about the change in the hour of meeting, after which the meeting adjourned.

Mr. Alec. H. Smith has entirely recovered from his interesting vacation, which he spent with the gripe.

THEODORE WADE ON THE "KLONDIKE."

The first of the Saturday Lectures was a pronounced success, both from the point of attendance and excellence of the lecture. Mr. Wade was a member of Major Walsh's party that pushed its way through to Dawson City a year ago last Fall, and underwent a great many hardships. The lecturer took the audience with him to Skagway and Dyea, over the White and Chilcoot Passes, across lakes, down streams, and thence to Dawson City. He was ably assisted in this by a splendid series of lantern views, which depicted stronger than words could tell, the almost stupendous difficulties of a trip to the land of gold.

Mr. Wade pictured the life of the miner, his hardships and his character, but added also the spice of humor to his description. He closed his lecture by presenting a number of lantern slides, illustrating the many sides of life at Dawson City.

The plan for the series is almost filled, so it will be necessary for any who desire to attend these splendid lectures to get their tickets without delay.

If the undergraduates but knew what they were missing in failing to attend these lectures, we feel sure a larger number would make good the opportunity.

Mr. John Ewan, the *Globe* War Correspondent, will lecture next Saturday on the following subject: "With the American Land Forces in Cuba," with lantern illustrations.

The *Harvard Lampoon*, one of the best-known and cleverest American College Journals, presents a "Sample Exam. Paper," and gives this as one question: "Write not more than two hundred pages on the W.C.T.U.—its cause, and remedy."

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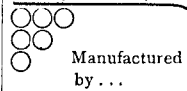
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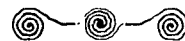
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EDUCATION DEPARTMENT CALENDAR.

DECEMBER—

1. Last day for appointment of School Auditors by Public and Separate School Trustees. [P.S. Act, sec. 21 (1); S.S. Act, sec. 28 (5).] (On or before 1st Dec.)
Municipal Clerk to transmit to County Inspector statement showing whether or not any county rate for Public School purposes has been placed upon Collector's roll against any Separate School supporter. [P.S. Act, sec. 68 (1); S.S. Act, sec. 50.] (Not later than 1st Dec.)
- 5 County Model Schools Examinations begin. (During the last week of the session.)
6. Practical Examinations at Provincial Normal Schools begin. (Subject to appointment.)
13. Returning Officers named by resolution of Public School Board. [P.S. Act, sec. 57 (2).] (Before 2nd Wednesday in Dec.)
Last day for Public and Separate School Trustees to fix places for nomination of Trustees. [P.S. Act, sec. 57 (2); S.S. Act, sec. 31 (5).] (Before 2nd Wednesday in Dec.)
14. Local Assessment to be paid Separate School Trustees. [S.S. Act, sec. 55.] (Not later than 14th Dec.)
Written Examinations at Provincial Normal Schools begin. (Subject to appointment.)
15. Municipal Council to pay Secretary-Treasurer Public School Boards all sums levied and collected in township. [P.S. Act, sec. 67 (1).] (On or before 15th Dec.)
County Councils to pay Treasurer High Schools. [H.S. Act, sec. 30.] (On or before 15th Dec.)
County Model School term ends. Reg. 58. (Close on 15th day of Dec.)

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Michaelmas Term
October 1st to December 23rd

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The Rotunda

Varsity is sorry to learn of the death of the two sisters of J. F. M. Stewart, '00. We wish to extend to him our sincere sympathy.

"Billy" Rea, '99, is not yet back at College.

I. Allingham, '98, is seen around the halls again. He is taking more lectures in Fourth Year English.

"Jack" Meredith and "Gussy" Darling are training their voices under Dr. Ham in St. James' Cathedral choir.

Geo. Umphrey, '99, is working day and night on his graduation thesis. What he doesn't know about Oedipus would fill a good many volumes.

Rymal, '00, is once more around and shows splendid results for his hard work in the holidays. "Long, black and beautiful."—*Old Song*.

A. H. Campbell, of Rugby fame several years ago, returned to the city to spend a few days. "Art" is in business in New York.

John Inkster has decided to lend his eloquence, erudition and experience towards converting the heathen of Marmora, Ontario, and left for there a few days ago. We wish him every success.

"Bob" Waldie has recovered from his attack of grip and is back to work.

R. D. Hume, '00, is perusing his books this year at Spanish River, and is at the same time successfully recruiting a slightly impaired health. "Bob" was visiting at his home in the city during the holidays, leaving for his hermitage on Saturday afternoon. He intends to return to the city in March and to write on the exams in May.

"Clemmie" Keys, '97, is now a master at Ridley College.

Hamilton, president of '02, is back again.

E. H. Cooper, '00, returned to Varsity a few days late, but ready for anything.

"Freddie" Hogg—"Bob" Mullen's "shirt-bosom friend"—returned from Ottawa with many good resolves.

Alex. McDougall, leader of the Opposition, was prevented from attending to his parliamentary duties by a sudden business call from the city.

Don Ross is better again after a bad attack of the grip.

The friends of W. J. Drumgole, '00, will be glad to know that, although he is still in London hospital, he is recovering from the operation which he underwent about two weeks ago.

"Dick" Fudger, '02, has had a bad attack of grip and is not yet back to work.

"Bud" Bogart, '99, tore his affections away from Belleville and returned last Monday.

All hands will be in the rally at the Kleiser concert in the Association hall, Jan 23.

"George" Hastings spent most of his holidays with the common enemy, but, we are glad to say, is all right again.

W. P. Reeves, B.A. '94, has returned from Harvard, where he has been studying theology. He was speaker at the Lit. Friday night and said at the prorogation of Parliament, that he thought the speeches were excellent and fully as good if not better than when he was an active member of the Lit.

John Bone, '99, fell a victim to our common enemy, la grippe. We are glad to learn that he is on the way to recovery.

Mr. G. L. Wagar, B.A. '98, has fortunately been able to secure a position on the teaching staff of the Morrisburg High School.



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Whilst the College is organized on a strictly military basis the cadets receive in addition to their military studies a thoroughly practical, scientific and sound training in all subjects that are essential to a high and general modern education.

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The object of the College course is thus to give the cadets a training which shall thoroughly equip them for either a military or civil career.

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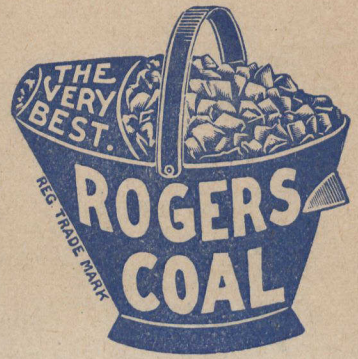
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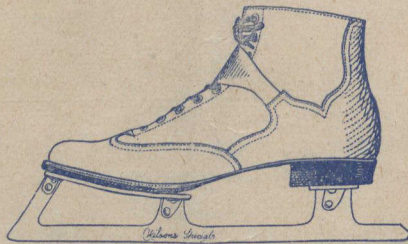


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