

THE VARSITY

McNairn W H

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University of Toronto.

TORONTO, JANUARY 31ST, 1900

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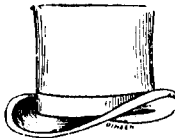
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No. 13

THE FUNCTIONS OF A UNIVERSITY.

Speaking first generally, we may say that the work of the University is educational, and that the aim of University study is true culture; culture, that is, not of the sham, superficial kind which depends upon peculiarities of thought and speech and an affectation of delight in the æsthetic, but the true culture which depends upon the harmonious development of all man's powers—not an external acquirement, but an internal condition. This educational work is shared by the University with many other institutions. Indeed, in a very true sense man's whole experience is educational. How then does the education of the schools differ from that of the farm and the workshop? Is it not in this, that the farmer and the artisan who have had no school education have not come into close contact with the world's great teachers? We all live in the midst of facts whose meaning we do not know, and whose meaning remains unknown to us except as it is told to us by men of unusual insight, by men of genius. To the ploughman who has not the poetic insight of Burns, and who has never had poets for his teachers, the mouse's nest is just a heap of leaves and stubble, and the daisy just a common flower. He sees things, but not their relations. He learns facts, but not their essential import. The man of the schools has this advantage over his less fortunate fellows, that he need not sit vainly gazing at the book of the world, turning over its leaves in wonderment as to its possible meaning, or perhaps painfully puzzling out a word here and there; for he has teachers who come and lean over his shoulder explaining difficult phrases and helping him to read whole paragraphs and sometimes even pages of that book.

Among men of our higher institutions of learning the University man is distinguished by his searching after learning for its own sake. In the Law School, the Medical School and the School of Applied Science the course of study has direct reference to some profession that the student wishes to enter, and a very direct reward for the faithful student is qualification for entrance into the desired profession: but in the College and in the University, (which in America includes the College) the search for truth is more disinterested as bringing no reward except clearer vision of the truth and greater power to follow it. The aim of University study is general culture sought for its own sake and not for any immediate financial or social rewards it may bring. Now this disinterestedness is essential to the attainment of a broad and clear view of the field of knowledge, and enables the University to do a work that no other educational institution can do. It can give its students a conception of unity in the midst of diversity, a realization of the essential oneness of the world of thought and of action.

Perhaps the chief contribution of this century to the thought of the race has been a new conception of the world as a unit. Men are now coming to see that the Universe is of a piece and that no man can truly know one fact of life without knowing it in its relation to the other facts of life. The student of modern literature cannot rightly know Goethe and Shakespeare without knowing something of Homer and Sophocles. So also the

natural scientist must know Browning and Tennyson, and the student of Philosophy, Haeckel and Darwin. He who would know the real worth of one course of study must have some vital knowledge of all—knowledge not memory-crammed for examinations, but worked over in the mind till it finds its expression in the life. The astronomer who has mastered the "Apology of Socrates" will be better able to rightly relate himself to the facts and theories of modern Astronomy than he otherwise could. He has come into vital relation with one of the greatest minds of the ages and is by this enabled to better see the place of Astronomy in the world of thought, to judge what are the important and what the relatively unimportant facts of that science and to discover the principles that underlie the facts. It is not, indeed, possible that the student should attend lectures and read books on all the courses of study. Most of his acquaintanceship with portions of the field of knowledge outside his own special course must be acquired indirectly. The professors and lecturers are, or should be, men who understand the relationship that exists between the different departments of knowledge, and who teach this relationship by illustration and comparison. But more than through his teachers a man will get, through fellowship with students whose specialties are other than his, a largeness of mental grasp that will redeem him from the narrowness of the mere specialist. You can get a good deal of Plato just by association with a classical student, as you can learn some of the essential teaching of Kent by friendship with a student of Philosophy.

From the disinterested and comprehensive character of University work it follows that the study of philosophy must always be the centre of University thought. For philosophy is the attempt, with disinterested motive in as comprehensive a way as possible, to discover the meaning of reality as expressed in phenomena; in other words to discover the general principles which relate and explain the facts made known by science. This does not mean, however, that all students should take lectures in metaphysics. Not all students of philosophy have read the Critique of Pure Reason, or can discourse learnedly on Hegel and Hume. Every true student is, in some degree, a philosopher in his own department, learning patiently, indeed, his facts, but learning them not for the facts themselves, but for the principles which they reveal—the great underlying principles which we are coming more and more to see are the same in all departments of life.

In the University the student should also get a conception of the unity of mankind in practical life and of the intimate relation of thought and action. We all need to have enforced upon us the lesson that if learning is to do her work in the world she must walk abroad, along the streets and into the markets, must talk the language of common men and concern herself with common things. There doubtless is a place in the world for men like Browning's Grammarian, who shut himself up from pleasure, and from the society of his fellows that he might devote himself to his books; and who still, with death staring him in the face, ground away at his grammar, "settled Hoti's business, properly based *Oun*, and gave us the doctrine of the enclitic *De*." There is something about such

a man that we admire, nay, even reverence, but we know that he is not the highest type, that students, generally, have other work to do. We need, then, to realize that as knowledge is one, so mankind is one, that learning is valuable only as it is distributed, and the learned noble only as they serve. Our American cousins showed their appreciation of true University work when they appointed President Gilman of Johns Hopkins to the Venezuelan commission and President Schurman of Cornell to the Philippine commission. The nation has a right to look to the University for practical men who can serve as leaders in times of crisis.

There is also a more special work that the University in our day must do, a work belonging to the University as distinct from the college. This is to enable the student to become a master in some one department of study. He comes to the University with very imperfect acquaintance with even the main paths of knowledge, and very little power to follow them, and he looks to his Alma Mater for guidance and help. Now, that mother is most bountiful and most wise who trains her children not to depend upon her, but to be able to do without her. She will send her boy forth into the world able to stand in the strength of his own manhood. Her spirit will, indeed, always live in him and her love always inspire him, but he will not need her direct guidance and sustaining help. So from the University the student should go forth feeling that in some one department at least he has gone as far as his teachers can guide him; that he stands finally at the end of the path which others have opened up; and that now he himself may be a guide, or, perhaps, open up the way a little farther into the unknown. This, then, a great University must do; it must give a man a broad basis of general culture, and then make him a master in his chosen sphere of thought and action. "What science and practical life alike need," says Nicholas Murray Butler, "is not narrow men, but broad men sharpened to a point."

In order to understand the essential conditions for the performance of these functions it is necessary that we recognize the organic nature of University life. Our motto, *Velut arbor aevo*, should remind us that our University is a living organism. Faculty, graduates and undergraduates are all parts of a living whole, and the life of the whole depends upon the life of the parts. The work that an organism does depends upon its life, and its life depends upon how it obeys the laws of its being. These laws are in the main two: First, that in the midst of great diversity of parts there should be one aim; and, second, that there should be mutual service toward that aim. The tree has many parts and each part its own activity, but the activities of all the parts are directed to one end, the production of fruit; and leaf, stem and root all work together for the attainment of that end. As long as in any University there is any considerable number of students or instructors who see no higher end for University work than preparation for examinations and the granting of degrees, so long the true work of that University will not be done. In the degree that the men of any University regard their relation one to another as one of mere contiguity in space rather than of community of life, in that degree will true college spirit among them be impossible. In our own college during the last five years no cry has more persistently sounded forth from the student body than the cry that we have no college spirit, and no question has been more frequently asked than "What may we do that will develop *esprit de corps* among our students?" What may we do, indeed, but go and read our Carlyles again and learn that there is no patent nostrum that our student body may take and straightway be well, that there is no cure-all for a spiritless University. If this our University is to have greater

success and stronger spirit, it will not be by the adoption of this expedient or that expedient, but by our clearly recognizing the end of our work here as the attainment of mental and moral culture, and by all of us, undergraduates, graduates, faculty, working together in fellowship of thought and life toward that end.

N. F. COLEMAN.

[The substance, with an extension, of an address delivered before an open meeting of the Literary and Scientific Society on the occasion of their first annual oratory contest.—ED. VARSITY.]

COLEMAN'S ORATION.

Were you at the oratory contest the other night? If so you know why Coleman got the medal. The others made orations; several made very good orations—and you felt that they could have spoken just as well on any other subject. Then Coleman came on the platform and began to speak, and we all felt the difference. With him oratory was a means to an end. We observed the almost unique phenomenon of a speaker with something to say.

And he said something that many of us in the University need to know. Have you spoken to many of the Science men? I believe fully half the Science men get sick of the whole business before they have finished their third year (except the P-1 Science men, who, rumor hath it, have too good a time to get sick of anything). They have done nothing since they came to the University but study precipitates and peer into microscopes. They have become so that they see everything from its scientific aspect only. When they see trees they think of bast and spiral vessels, when they see rocks they think of brachiopods and trilobites, when they see a railway train they think of double-action cylinders and pressure gauges—and of these they have had more than enough in the laboratories. Some men—the one per thousand who is supposed to be a potential genius—may perhaps be able to give their whole time to one subject and (I had almost said "in spite of this") succeed in that subject. But even then, like Browning's grammarian, to whom Coleman referred, we may find them learned but we find them

"——bald too, eyes like lead,
Accents uncertain."

and most men in the same condition simply fail and find out for themselves what was found out five thousand years ago and will be found out with the same pain five thousand years hence that "He that increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow, and much study is a weariness of the flesh."

It is only by interesting ourselves in other branches of learning than our own that we can avoid this, and for all Science men, for all men in any department of special study, that speech of Coleman's contains matter worth more than medals and facts better than fellowships. If you have been spending all your time on some brand of study that was a pleasure and is an incubus, don't neglect it (for it will become a pleasure again), but do other things as well. Make friends from the other departments, and keep at least one book on some outside subject by you always, not neglecting our great modern fiction, for above all things a man *must* not fossilize. And besides taking a higher place than usual in your next exams., you will find almost as much to your surprise as your relief that other people have been there before you, and that nothing very much was the matter after all.

"Elle existe toujours, cette sève du monde,
Elle coule—et les dieux sont encore ici-bas."

The Science men might meet together some night and translate that.

I hope that oratory contest will be repeated every year till further notice. We have too many "first annual" things at this University and not enough "tenth annual" or "fifteenth annual." Let us try to manage so that ten or fifteen years hence this will not be the case. Others besides Coleman gave orations the University is proud of, and not one man spoke who need be ashamed to speak again next year if he is still here. They won't find a man there every year who has something to say and is glad of the chance to say it.

G. S.

AMERICAN HOSPITALITY.

The candidates whose abilities warranted the management in taking them on the Lacrosse tour last spring are deservedly the envy of Varsity students. They were not only provided with a most enjoyable means of recuperating from the wasting effects of examinations, but at the same time they received a great deal of useful information. They took advantage of this opportunity to enjoy the beautiful scenery through Pennsylvania and New York States. They observed, especially, the industries of the people, amongst the most interesting of which are iron and coal mining. And last but not least they were given ample proof of the fact that American powers of entertainment are surpassed by none.

Who could imagine anything more invigorating, the day after the last exam., than a sail over the smooth and sparkling waters of Lake Ontario? Even one of the boys who seemed exceptionally well acquainted in St. Catharines, thought the steamer made our trip from Yonge st. dock a little quicker than he desired. The others were only a little comforted when they beheld on his back a placard bearing the inscription: "It is an ill wind that blows nobody good."

However, it was the 24th of May, and the discomforts caused by the shortness of the journey were soon obliterated by the gaieties with which the people of the Garden City were celebrating this dear old holiday. In the morning the soldiers were on parade, and those who saw the first contingent's send-off can imagine the effect of this on the ladies' colleges. Suffice it to say that some of the blue and white streamers lost in the morning were occupying conspicuous places in the grandstand of the lacrosse grounds in the afternoon. But oh! how sad! the "Meds." were so dominated by thoughts of great big "bruises" and the "Arts" by points of satiety, that time was called with St. Catharines in the lead by the score of 5 to 2.

Our departure in the evening was marked by weeping and wailing on one individual's account. But we had no sooner succeeded in making him forget their effects than our abilities to give consolation were required by the manager. The customs' officials at Niagara Falls suspected him at sight. They ordered him to turn out all his pockets, and when nothing was found therein they thought that he was doing his smuggling by means of the "coffin" which was in his charge. It was forced open and to the dismay of the officers contained nothing but our lacrosse sticks. After some consideration the manager was freed and the younger members of the team were overjoyed at being again under his fatherly eye.

Twelve o'clock at night found us in Geneva, N.Y., which proved to be an easier place from which to banish our drills in those dominating theories. The students at Hobart College in the absence of a "Residence" have secured its advantages by joining the Greek-letter societies to a man. These fraternities have built commodious houses along the beautiful avenue skirting the very edge of the high bluff which overlooks picturesque Lake Seneca to

the west of the city. Since the houses are furnished and supported by those jolly students they are naturally provided with every comfort and amusement. And as we had just spent seventeen hours in excitement and travel we were well fitted to appreciate their kindness in billeting us at these "frats."

The next day was luckily one of the ideal days so characteristic of New York State. Every person viewed the town to good advantage. Its beauties so livened our spirits that we were able to defeat the college team by 9 goals to 5. But, if they improve as much during the present year as they did during the past the figures will certainly be placed in the reverse order. "Cissy" Forbes says that after another night in the arms of our Hobart friends we were forced to leave for Ithaca, N.Y., where we were to meet Cornell in a good close exhibition of our own game.

The buildings of that famous University are if anything a little inferior to ours in beauty of architecture and size, though not in numbers. But nature has endowed them with a situation that is surpassed by few in the world. About two miles up a gradual slope from the town you find the campus encircled by the groves that make the mountain look so picturesque from the distance. Around it are built the numerous University buildings, together with many handsome residences which are owned chiefly by the professors and the Greek-letter fraternities. In following the drives through the groves which we have seen furnished a back-ground for all these, it is difficult to forget that you are not in a good old Canadian forest. But the several ravines which intersect them are even more interesting. From the bridges which span these immense chasms, you can not only see a tiny creek hundreds of feet below, but you also have a view of that part of New York which—to use the old figure—may be likened to a sea of hills.

After keeping us busy all day in taking in the sights, and more especially in winning the lacrosse match, the Canadian club at Cornell took us in hand for the evening. They gave us a banquet and such an impression of their ideas of hospitality that none of us will ever regret having met them. They even escorted us to the train, in a body, at midnight and saw that we were comfortably quartered before they gave a rousing send-off to the sleeper which bore us through the mountains to Bethlehem.

Five o'clock came early, but "Rastus," the porter, was so aggressive that none of us succeeded in oversleeping. He (and the freshman?) had just put a nice polish on all our boots when the scene of our conflict and warm acquaintance with the students of Lehigh University was reached. Breakfast was no sooner served than nearly every person turned in for a snooze before visiting the Government ironworks where the firearms of the United States army are made. The interesting task of inspecting this institution being completed the manager ordered us to prepare for battle with the college lacrosse team. And a stubborn fight it was, but luck was with us, for we secured 7 goals to our opponents' 5. Sunday was spent in visits to the churches of Bethlehem and to those of Allentown, four miles distant.

Any homesickness that the younger men may have experienced was soon ousted by the excitement of being on the last stretch to Greater New York, our destination. However, this short distance was not traversed without its little episode. At one of the intermediate stations our train stopped right beside a switch on which a couple of car loads of girls were sidetracked. "Pusser" Greig and Frank Morrison were rash enough to put their heads out of the windows. The result was terrible; the girls tried to steal them on us, and the struggle with which we

attempted their rescue was only terminated by the coming of the matrons.

On arriving at Jersey City we found that, as is usual in such places, the station was crowded with bunco-men. They did not pay much attention to us, however, until we were on the ferry which carried us across to New York. Even then we would have escaped but for our freshman. His first view, and it was a splendid one, of the metropolis of America, transferred him to the world of enchantment. There he stood in "Ruben-loo" fashion, with his hands behind his back, his chest thrown out, his head raised high in the air, his mouth wide open, and his eyes bulging out like onions. Poor fellow! we all felt sorry for him (but the bunco-men). They made a mad rush for him and he was only saved by the foresight of Manager Bone, who before our arrival had warned the juniors and seniors to be ready to come to his assistance in protecting the sophs and freshies. Indeed, it was only after he had distributed the fire arms carried in the "coffin" that we were able to beat off their assailants and land the poor fellows in safety at the summer house of the Crescent Athletic Club.

This was one of the most interesting as well as the prettiest places we visited. The house is situated in Bay Ridge, on the banks of the Hudson. It supports a well-supplied boat house, and the extensive lawns surrounding it are the envy of the country. The forts, arsenals and other defences of the harbor are close by; Coney Island is about two miles distant, and beyond that is Sandy Hook, from which one can see far out on the ocean.

It was Decoration Day, as was plainly evinced by the gorgeous display of flags and bunting from every available place. When we beheld these we felt that such an omen would certainly bring a certain amount of disaster in its train. Sure enough the fast team of the Crescents dashed our hopes of victory to the ground by throwing 10 goals while we tallied 8, but the right royal reception we were receiving soon made us forget our sorrows in this line. This holiday is the one on which the club entertains the ladies. They all come early in the day, which is a good indication of the high esteem in which they hold our national game, which furnishes their afternoon amusement. After dinner the floors were cleared and the orchestra played dance music for the remainder of the night. Messrs. Curry, Ford, Garvin and Miller, the officers of the lacrosse team, were especially attentive to us during the evening, with the result that we enjoyed ourselves immensely.

Having explored the wonders of Greater New York for five days most of the boys started for destinations unknown. In fact Bud Bogart and Harry Wales have not been heard from since. In reference to the trip the freshman was heard to murmur, "gosh, it was fine," and before parting the other boys unanimously declared that it was one of the most enjoyable outings they had ever had. As proof for this I may say that Captain Graham has the following applicants for places on the team for the tour of 1900, which promises to be just as successful as the last: Lionel King, Doc. Jackson, Fred. Grant, Frank Morrison, Art. Snell, Bud Bogart, Cissy Forbes, Harry Wales, Pusser Greig, and

Yours truly,

BILLY HANLEY.

NATURAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

The open meeting will be held on Wednesday evening, February 7th. Addresses will be given by Dr. Primrose, Dr. Coleman, and by Prof. Clark, of Trinity. The addresses will be interspersed with music. Further particulars given next week.

FROM OLD GLASGOW.

FREE CHURCH COLLEGE, GLASGOW, Jan. 12, 1900.

DEAR VARSITY,—Your Christmas number came to me over the seas, like a voice from our Alma Mater, calling me back to my undergraduate days, and for a few moments, in smoky, foggy Glasgow, I could fancy I was back amid the old familiar scenes, living again the life of that little world we call Varsity. I read every word of it, from "The Siren City" to the last item of news. It is certainly the best Christmas VARSITY I have yet seen, and worthy of the noble old institution whose name it bears. It is a fitting last number of a great year, and I was going to add—a great century, but it seems the century has a reluctance to being pushed off the stage quite so soon. We thought we had the question finally decided here and were settling down to making the best of the last months of the dying nineteenth century, when, one night at a banquet—whether wet or dry I know not—Lord Kelvin gravely announced, "In spite of the opinion of so many eminent scientists, I must maintain that the twentieth century begins at 12 o'clock Dec. 31st, 1899," and then the fun began. The learned and the wise spent weary hours drawing scholarly and obscure diagrams to prove their particular views of the matter, the business man in the train debated it with his neighbor, the workmen on the streets and in the shops neglected their work to wrestle over its subtleties, and the miners in at least one coal mine nearly had a riot in the heart of old mother earth, because of their decided opinions, "pro" and "con." John Thomson met Rob Dunlop at Glasgow Cross, just as the bells in the old Church were tolling the requiem of the old, and the birth of the new year. "Hey Jock, an' hoo are ye?" said Rob, "a guid new year tae ye;" "Brawly, Rab, brawly, thank ye for speerin', a guid new year tae yersel," replied John, "an' a guid new century tae us a'." "But it isna a new century." "Ou, aye, div ye no' ken that Lord Kelvin"—and then the discussion began. Next morning the Glasgow Herald had the following item:—"John Thomson and Rob. Dunlop were arrested for creating a disturbance at Glasgow Cross. They are both staid and sober citizens, but new year's cheer and the century question got the better of them." Thus it goes, column after column of heated discussion has appeared in every paper in the kingdom, and even such papers as the Spectator and The British Weekly have devoted considerable space to it, and many an incident similar to the above has occurred. If we had not a war abroad, we would certainly have some miniature ones at home over this seemingly trivial matter. But the shadow of grim war is over all, and the war of the century question has resulted in nothing more serious than a great shedding of ink. It may be a good thing that such a counter influence has been at work during these crisis times in the history of the empire, for as I write a feeling of tension bordering on impatience has taken possession of the British people. We entered this war so buoyantly, with such certainty of an easy and decisive victory, that when the tidings of disaster after disaster came, for a moment the nation seemed almost stunned, but then came the proof to the world of the stuff of which Britons are made. There were no hysterical shriekings for radical changes in administration or for the winning of impossible victories, but a steady, dogged determination to retrieve every inch lost and to plant the British standard in the heart of the Transvaal, no matter at what cost. For every man who has fallen at the front a hundred have volunteered to take his place and the loyal colonies have swung into line to show to the world that Britons the world 'round are one in the determination to maintain the integrity of the empire. Nothing has ever happened which

has done so much to cement the empire into living unity, and the hearts of the people here now have a warmer feeling than ever before for the colonies, and especially for Canada. But even with all these the dearth of decisive gains in the war and the continued lists of dead and wounded have had the natural effect of creating more or less tension and impatience to hear of one decisive blow, and before this reaches Toronto, I hope such a blow will have been struck.

We are so near here to the grim reality of war, to its horror and its pathos, that it requires the utmost self-possession and fortitude to bear with the slow movement of events at the front. The morning after the battle of Magersfontein, as I entered the Central station at Glasgow, I noticed a poor woman, with a little child in her arms, sitting on one of the benches, seemingly stunned by some great calamity. I came back again four hours afterwards and she was still there, sitting with that same stunned, bewildered look upon her face, occasionally uttering a low moan, while the little child looked up at her in startled wonder, too much awed by the look on her face to cry. While I stood there a lady came in and going over to her heard her story and then gently led her to her train and accompanied her home. She had just got word of her husband's death in that awful trap into which the gallant Highland regiment were led, to be shot down like rabbits. She was not refined or rich, she had no choice phrases in which to embody her grief, but she was honest and true, and she had a woman's heart, and it bled to think of him who was her all, the father of her child, lying stark and ghastly under the turf on the African veldt, while thousands of miles of ocean must forever roll between her and his grave. It is this that makes such things doubly hard, and in thousands of humble homes such scenes are being repeated whenever a battle takes place. That day all Scotland was saddened, not only because of the many darkened homes, but because Gen. Wauchope had fallen, and he was every inch a man, as well as a soldier and a hero, and every Scotchman felt that he had lost a personal friend. To Canadians, excepting those who have friends in the contingent at the front, a list of killed and wounded is a more or less sad bit of news, but here to many homes such a list is a death knell. This war has cost Great Britain much in men and money, but she has gained by it that which nothing else could give, a revival of truer ideals, a sobering of the national spirit and a unifying of the separate elements of the Empire exceeding the wildest dreams of the most enthusiastic Imperialist.

It is going to mean much for Canada. Our patriotic participation in the struggles of the Empire is turning the attention of British people towards our country, and the conclusion of the war excitement is going to see a great influx of British men and money into our country. I grow prouder every day of my Canadian nativity, and have turned Canadian immigration and exploitation agent by self-appointment, and if all Britain is not persuaded that our climate and resources are the finest and best in the world it will not be my fault. We have certainly every natural condition for a great and glorious country, and our future will depend very much on those who are our Varsity undergraduates to-day. Men and women of Varsity, the eyes of the world are turning towards Canada. What are they going to see there? The answer is largely yours.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN MCKAY, '99.

Remember the "Evening with Goethe," Monday, Feb. 5th., Chemical Amphitheatre. Printed invitations can be obtained from W. Elmslie, corres. sec'y. of the Modern Language Club.

School of Practical Science

The members of the third year presented Prof. Graham with a token of their esteem on Wednesday, the 24th. It was in the form of a genuine Irish meerschaum pipe, patriotically decorated for those of the Emerald Isle.

A belated telegram from the seat of the war dated Jan. 19th. says:—

"A small body of the Second Year regiment made a forced march from Universitatburg to take up a position for draughting near Laing's Nek. When they had advanced some distance an overwhelming force of Boers of the First Year met them. The odds were so great that the Second Years were forced to retire."

Another despatch of the same day states:—"A member of the Boer forces endeavored to break up the good feeling existing between the Engineers and the Bearer Corps; but the Medical men drove him from their camp in a way likely to restrain him from further efforts in that direction. What will remove grease? Ask Beardmore."

"This process was discovered by chance."

An eminent classical authority pointed out to the students the other day, when the weather was soft, the difference between the roads of Ancient Greece and those of Toronto: whereas the former were the paths of dried-up mountain torrents, the latter were still running.

Hello, Bert! how much did you win?

Judging by Alphonso's climbing of that pipe he ought to go on the next polar expedition.

Did you see Rust on the pipe?

Poor old $\text{Fe}_2(\text{OH})_6$! that is the only drawing he'll ever have hung up.

"If you stand between two parallel mirrors you will see a whole string of 'objects'" was spoken to the Arts men.

We understand the department of Architecture, 2nd year, is prepared to challenge the rest of the School in Hockey.

Y.M.C.A. NOTES.

The officers of the Y.M.C.A. for 1900-01 are as follows: President, D. J. Davidson, '01; 1st vice-pres., C. Masters, '01; 2nd vice-pres., J. A. Henry, S.P.S.; treas., R. B. Cochrane, '02; rec. sec., John C. Ross, '03; general secretary, R. J. Wilson, '00.

John R. Mott, M.A., Ph.B., speaks in Association Hall on Friday night specially to cloister students and on Saturday evening to all college men of the city.

A good audience should be on hand Thursday, Feb. 1st, at 4 o'clock, in Room 2, to hear Mr. T. A. Russell's lecture on Canadian Transportation before the Political Science Club.

VARSIETY SATURDAY PUBLIC LECTURES.

The programme for the present year includes the following items:—February 3rd, "Some Great Landscape Painters and Their Methods," with illustrations, Homer Watson, R.C.A.; February 10th, "The Picturesque Side of Wild Animals," with illustrations, E. Seton Thompson, A.R.C.A.; February 17th, "The Novels of Jane Austen," Prof. Alexander; March 3rd, "French-Canadian Folklore," Louis Frechette, LL.D., C.M.G. The lectures will be delivered in the Chemical building, beginning at 3.15 p.m. The proceeds will be devoted to increase the funds of the Women's Residence Association.

The Varsity

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TORONTO, January 31st, 1900.

The Inter-College Association is deservedly attracting considerable attention at present within the Toronto Colleges. The broader the trend of thought of the college man, the more he will get out of college life. When members of different faculties or professions meet together to discuss questions of life economic, social or political, the effect must ever be salutary. The proposed measure tends to two things—a more general and unprejudiced college sentiment, and a better understanding of many of the problems of the day. The ground which the club would thus cover has heretofore never been covered by a single college organization. The association should have the support of all earnest thinkers at University College.

It is invigorating to listen to such remarks—straight from the shoulder—as Dr. G. M. Milligan made at the oratorical contest. As he said, too often the subject handles the speaker and not the speaker the subject, but we need not look solely among students to find such—we can find it in many a higher sphere. Students of all persons appreciate highly the words of the man who thinks and says what he thinks. They like to feel that behind the speaker there is a distinct personality, a force unseen, ever present but never dead.

When the students departed from the oratorical contest they felt that they realized as never before what oratory was—they felt that they had learned a mighty truth from the judge's criticism and Coleman's speech. When they listened to Dr. Parkin in Massey Hall some months ago they may not have become Imperialists, but they at least carried away a greater enthusiasm for their empire and their Queen. When they heard Prof. Goldwin Smith at the Knox-University College Debate in Association Hall a year ago, they felt that every word he uttered was the product of thought, and that every word uttered was leavened by his personality.

Were there more men in the pulpits and professors' chairs who put their individuality into their work, who lent to their hearers even a small portion of that enthusiasm which they should possess, there would to-day be fewer empty pews and empty desks.

An oration, a sermon or a lecture should have life and energy and the imprint of thought upon it—if it has not, no more should it expect an audience, than a themeless book a reader.

THE LOOM OF DESTINY—A REVIEW.

Even if the author of this little volume of short stories were not one of our own graduates it would be a satisfaction to notice Mr. Stringer's work because of its intrinsic merit. There are fourteen stories in *The Loom of Destiny*, nearly all dealing with child-life in the slums of New York City, and all told in a manner which prevents their similarity making them monotonous. Each story presents some phase of the child mind as it is discerned with genuine artistic insight and touched with a fine pathos. At times there is a tendency for this pathos to lose its artistic effect in a moralistic tinge, but upon the whole it is distinctly the artist's rather than the moralist's stamp that is upon this work. Mr. Stringer shows himself to be a writer of originality, clear discernment, exceptionally fine sensibility and strong sympathy. He is original in his choice of subject-matter and in his method of treatment; he reveals his fine sensibility in the emotional effects which he has transcribed; and his sympathy is apparent at every turn. We get a clear picture of the manner in which the minds of children living in the slums and tenements are stung into premature ripeness by the attacks of an unsympathetic world, yet we see, at the same time, how there is bred in them a certain satisfaction with their environments, a certain delight in the midst of their misery. Something of this is admirably brought out in one of the best of these stories, "The Undoing of Dinney Crockett." This story tells of the attempted adoption of "Dinney" by a kind hearted lady and gentleman who had lost their only child, a boy. But "Dinney" could not endure the strangeness of his new world; the more kindness he received the deeper his longing for his old life became, until finally, when he could endure it no longer, all his feelings burst forth in a fury of rage,—"I'm sick of all dis muggin', an' dis place, an' — an' everyt'ing else, and I want to go home, see! I want to go home—I want to go home!" (It is in such situations that the author seems at times to feel a certain hopelessness and to reveal a consequent sympathy too strong for the first effects upon the reader).

What is probably the chief defect in these stories is a lack of humor. It is, however, a defect only of the work and not of character, for Mr. Stringer shows a fine sense of humor in his portrayal of certain situations and in occasional bright flashes, such as "Georgie saved the life of Mary Edith's doll when it had a most terrible sawdust hemorrhage." The difficulty seems to be that the pathos is allowed at times to become slightly morbid for the want of a little fuller play of strong humor. These little bits of humanity are often very grave and very pathetic, but they also have a keen appreciation of a certain kind of humor which serves to make their life tolerable.

Something has been said of Mr. Stringer's originality. A most false charge of slavish indebtedness to Kipling has in this connection been imputed to this writer. One meets with such a statement, as—"Mr. Stringer knows his Kipling well,—from Kipling Mr. Stringer has learned the trick of setting the child mind and child nature in a story that in itself appeals strongly to the intelligence of the grown man or woman." Surely it is time someone rose in his might and destroyed some of these false gods of criticism. Criticism after this fashion is worse than unfair; it is immoral. It blasts the hopes and blights the prospects of many young writers of merit.

If Kipling is the present test-meter of poetical excellence does that not only imply that he interprets more fully than anyone else the *real* spirit of his day? And if there be this real spirit why should not other writers, who have been able to gain a sympathetic appreciation of it, share in its interpretation? Unless Mr. Stringer is more like Poe than Lowell, he will have connections historically with antecedent conditions just like any other writer, and if his work bear the artist's stamp—as it does—then he has a claim to originality. Mr. Stringer has probably been influenced to some extent by Kipling's work, but the fact remains that his work possesses a vital quality revealed in an artistic manner, and *that* can come by no artifice or imitation; it belongs to a man's life. It is because Mr. Stringer shows that he has this vital quality, accompanied with a power of expression, that he is a writer of considerable promise. It is a pleasure to recognize his work, especially at a University whose name he has always loved and even honored by his work.

A. H. R. F.

The College Girl

The second regular meeting of the Women's Literary Society was held on Saturday evening last. The programme began with a piano solo by Miss Shaw. The number was very fine and Miss Shaw was called upon for an encore. Miss McCorquodale followed with a song which all enjoyed, thoroughly showing their appreciation in the demand for an encore, to which Miss McCorquodale kindly responded. Miss Duckett gave as a violin solo the "Intermezzo" from Mascagni's "Cavaleria Rusticana."

The fourth number on the programme was an historical report of the events of the year 1899, by Miss Nellie Spence, B.A., of Parkdale Collegiate Institute. She began by saying that as the year 1899 had been too eventful in every way and the subject was therefore really too wide to be worked into a single essay, she proposed to give a sketch only of the principal events touching war and international politics in that year. She mentioned first the Peace Conference, in which twenty-four nations were represented and from which so much was expected. It was to put an end to war among civilized nations. But the same year which saw the nations gathered in a peace conference also saw one of them waging war in the Philippine Islands and another plunged in a South African war. Miss Spence then gave a short sketch of the War in the Philippines, of the British victories in the Soudan, and a somewhat more detailed account of the War in the Transvaal. Then leaving the subject of war, she dealt with the drawing together of England and Germany in the past year and of England and the United States, and the drawing apart from France. She next touched on the relations of England and Russia in respect to China, on the settlement of the Venezuelan dispute, and on the condition of Spain, her treaty with the United States and her marked decadence in national vitality.

The programme ended with a debate between the fourth and third years, Miss L. M. Mason, '00, and Miss McCallum, '00, being on the affirmative, and Miss Ward, '01, and Miss Francis, '01, on the negative. Resolved, that domestic science should form part of a University course.

After deprecating the idea that domestic science meant merely cookery, and that she looked forward to hearing the egg-beater and the potato-masher resound

through the halls of our college, Miss Mason proceeded to define the term and explain the scope and importance of the science. She spoke eloquently of the practical value of the subject and its great importance to health and life, and repudiated the idea of its being too mundane a subject to have any connection with the University. For how is it more mundane than agriculture? Is the right diet of pigs and cows more important and higher than the diet of a man? But the science is not studied for this alone. It has a great influence on the intellectual development of the race, for health of body is essential to health of mind. Many beautiful and convincing arguments did she bring forward for its broadening influence, its importance in keeping students in touch with practical life, its relation to the domestic servant problem, and its rendering untrue the old complaint that a University training unfits a woman for home life.

But Miss Ward proceeded to demolish all these arguments and to set up a few fortifications of her own in the shape of protests against either a double course, when one is quite heavy enough, or a mere superficial knowledge of the subject, and against the expense involved in beginning a new course.

Miss McCallum spoke next and directed her energies chiefly to showing that the University offers better facilities for the study of this science than are to be had elsewhere, and that it is a fit and proper subject for a course at the University. The function of a University is to give culture, but not one-sided development—rather to make men and women vigorous forces in the world and of benefit to society. For this a knowledge of the laws of health is necessary, for a sound mind depends upon a sound body. In view then of its great importance, it is necessary to give it dignity and raise it from its present condition. But this can only be done by having it taught in the University. Moreover, it would involve less expense so than in erecting a separate college to be in affiliation, like the College of Music. Miss McCallum was proceeding to show that it is a good training for home life, but time forbade.

Miss Francis, the last speaker for the negative, showed how unsuitable it is and unnecessary for a University course. A University education makes a woman more intelligent and able to cope with any circumstances in which she may find herself, and she could easily acquire the science afterwards. Moreover, there is no culture in such a science, and it certainly does not belong to the Arts course.

Miss Mason was given five minutes to reply and succeeded in once more establishing her side in a strong position. The decision was given for the affirmative by a committee consisting of Miss McMurtry, '03, Miss Brown, '03, and Miss Huston, '02, appointed by the president. After a short dance the meeting broke up.

FIRST ANNUAL ORATORY CONTEST.

The success of an annual oratory contest in connection with the "Lit." is now beyond all doubt. Even the extreme cold of Friday night could not chill the ardor of an audience so large that the Students' Union was crowded to discomfort. It was just 8.30 when Chairman Prof. Wrong took the chair. The delay was caused by Prof. Dyson Hague not having put in an appearance. Arrangements had just nicely been made by which Prof. Wrong was to take Prof. Hague's place, when the latter put in an appearance. Rev. Chancellor Wallace, Rev. Dr. Milligan, and Prof. Hague acted as judges. There were eight contestants: Chas. Garvey, J. F. M. Stewart, A. H. McLeod, W. H. F. Addison, N. F. Coleman, A. L. McCredie, R.

M. Millman, E. M. Wilcox. The subjects were: Britain's Place among the Nations, the Functions of a Great University, and Woman and her Sphere. Mr. Garvey came first and chose the last subject, dividing it into three parts, (a) life in the outer world, (b) life in the cloister, (c) life in the home. He decided that it was the last of these that was woman's true sphere. Mr. Garvey's speech showed careful thought and preparation. J. F. M. Stewart followed with an oration on the first subject. His speech showed excellent arrangement in matter and was well delivered. A. H. McLeod, who came next, dealt with the same subject. He was suffering from a cold and so could not do himself justice, but his speech was, nevertheless, up to "Sandy's" usual good style. W. H. F. Addison was the first man to take up the subject of the functions of a great University. Mr. Addison was not altogether free in his delivery, but showed that he had done some thinking on the University question. At this stage Mr. Mason favored the audience with a song, which was well rendered. He was encored, but the chairman thought best to reserve the encore for a later part of the programme. N. F. Coleman came next, dealing also with the University question. Mr. Coleman spoke with great freedom and marked effect. His time was up before he had quite completed his speech. A. L. McCredie spoke on "Britain's Place Among the Nations," as also did R. M. Millman and E. M. Wilcox. Rev. G. M. Milligan gave the decision in favor of N. F. Coleman, and coupled Messrs. Millman and Stewart for a close second place.

RED CROSS FUND.

Miss McMicking begs to acknowledge the following subscriptions to the Red Cross Fund for the second Canadian contingent: G. M. Wrong, Alfred Baker, \$10; the President, W. H. VanderSmisen, W. H. Fraser, J. Squair, W. J. Alexander, J. E. Berkeley Smith, W. Lash Miller, J. Fletcher, A. Friend, \$5; R. B. Bensley, E. C. Jeffrey, \$3; J. F. McCurdy, J. G. Hume, A. Kirschmann, John J. Mackenzie, H. H. Langton, \$2; M. Hutton, A. Carruthers, W. S. Milner, C. A. Chant, E. J. Sacco, Elme DeChamp, G. H. Needler, W. A. Parks, G. W. Johnson, R. G. Murison, D. R. Keys, J. H. Cameron, F. H. Scott, T. A. Russell, F. B. Kendrick, A. H. Abbott, F. S. Wrinch, James Brebner, F. A. Moore, F. Tracy, H. T. Dawson, \$1; Donald McFayden, 75c.; J. S. Plaskett, T. L. Hogg, J. C. McLennan, 50c.; Miss Salter, \$1; Miss Buchan, 50c.; Miss Benson, \$1; Miss Arnoldi, 50c.; Miss McMicking, \$2. Total for staff, \$109.25.

INTER-COLLEGE CLUB.

The meeting for organization of the proposed Inter-College Club was held at Wycliffe College on Saturday evening last. The following is a list of officers as far as completed at present. President, Hugh Munroe, B.A., Vice-President, A. T. McNeill; Secretary, W. C. Good; Representatives,—Victoria, F. S. Farewell; McMaster, R. H. Mode, B.A.; Knox, J. J. Monds, B.A.; University College, J. W. McBean; Wycliffe College, G. H. Wilson; other colleges not elected yet. The club will probably be a sort of informal one, made sufficiently elastic to suit various needs as they shall arise. The next meeting will be held on February 12, when a discussion will take place upon the students' interests and duties outside the curriculum.

CONVERSAZIONE.

The tickets (\$1.00) are out for the Conversazione for February ninth. The tickets will be sold only through the students. These are limited in number. Let every student take it upon himself to sell them to all his friends who take an interest in the University and its affairs. Tickets can be got from G. A. Cornish or from members of the committee.

The Sports

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the Athletic Association was held in the Students' Union, Wednesday the 24th. ult. The attendance was not large but all present were deeply interested in the work done and much profitable discussion took place. President Telford, who occupied the chair, gave a general survey of the work being done by the Association. The Secretary then presented the report of the past year's work. It included the procuring of the Athletic Field for use of the students, the formation of the Athletic Board to supervise athletics generally, and the successful carrying through of the arrangements for Inter-College Field Sports. A brief report was also presented showing the work being done by the Directorate of the present year. Both reports showed that the Association had made great progress in securing good accommodation for athletics around Varsity, and that too without impairing the financial standing of the Association.

As an expression of satisfaction with this progress, T. A. Russell, Secretary-Treasurer of the Association last year, was unanimously tendered an honorary life-membership of the Association.

T. A. Russell then presented his plan for the reorganization of athletic management, as already outlined in VARSITY. His plan was discussed by Dr. J. D. Webster, J. G. Merrick, J. A. Jackson, V. E. Henderson, G. W. Ross, J. J. Gibson and others, and was finally approved. A committee composed of Messrs. Webster, Merrick, Russell, Telford, Gibson, Henderson and Ross was then appointed to draw up a definite constitution on this basis, and to submit it to a future meeting of the Association.

VARSITY'S HOCKEY TEAMS.

Since last issue the second team has met defeat at the hands of Newmarket by the score of 7-0. The first team, however, shows signs of improvement. On Wednesday, the 24th ult., a game was played with Stratford, where our boys held the visitors down to the score of five all, despite the fact that no practice had been possible. At the close of the game Varsity was having it all its own way and had the tie been played off as the rules provide, victory would certainly have been ours. The referee, however, declared the game a draw, and when he was shown his mistake, Stratford refused to play off the tie.

JENNINGS CUP SERIES.

The series of hockey matches for this cup has now been arranged and many good games are expected, as the interest is quite as strong as in our famous Mulock series in football. The games will all be played on the Varsity rink, and the season tickets to the rink will admit; to others an admission fee of 10 cents will be charged.

The series of games, as arranged at present, is as follows:

Thursday—S. P. S. vs. Victoria, 3 p.m.—I.

Friday—Medicine vs. Dentals, 2 p.m.—II.

Saturday—'03 Arts vs. '02 Arts, 10 a.m.—III.

Monday—'01 Arts vs. '00 Arts, 3.30 p.m.—IV.

Tuesday—Winner of I. vs. winner of II., 2.30 p.m.

Wednesday—Winner of III. vs. winner of IV., 3.30 p.m.

Final matches to be arranged later.

On February 13th Mr. Milner will read an essay on "Roman Education" before the Classical Association. This should be heard by every undergraduate.

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The invitations have been issued for the Women's Literary Society At-Home, Saturday, Feb. 3rd., at 7.30 p.m. The programme consists of Piano Solo, Miss Bessie Cowan; Song, Miss Lola Ronan; Violin Solo, Miss Woolryche; Song, Miss K. Westman; Reading, Miss Constance Jackson; Cello Solo, Miss Madeline Evans; Song, Miss Edyth Hill. The ladies are going to at least sustain the high standard of the past.

The annual meeting of the Association Football Club of University College was held Tuesday, January 23rd. The following officers were elected for next year: Hon. pres., A. T. DeLury; pres., E. F. Burton; vice-pres., E. McDiarmid; sec., G. A. McPherson; treas., J. A. Soule; captain, R. Smillie; 4th year rep., W. J. Wilson; 3rd year rep., F. H. Broder; 2nd year rep., R. DeLury.

C. V. Dymont then introduced a system of rules intended to improve the present system of scoring in Association football. Briefly, the plan is to have what now counts a goal count for four points, while a ball kicked over the goal and falling behind the goal within a distance of 24 feet shall count one point. These changes were recommended to the consideration of the Inter-College Association Football League.

PROGRAMME FOR "LIT" NEXT FRIDAY.—Recitation by Miller, '01, Songs by J. A. Soule, '02, Essay on "Wealth Value and Money" by Wm. Good, then an open debate at which all are invited to speak on the subject "Resolved that the Scientific is more important than the Literary in a University Education." Leader of Affirmative, F. G. T. Lucas, '01, leader of Negative C. V. Dymont, '00.

The annual meeting of the University of Toronto Baseball Club was held in the Students' Union on Friday, January 19th. A good crowd was present and some of the offices were keenly contested. Knox College was given a representative and the Executive Committee appointed last year was abolished. D. A. Sinclair, B.A., occupied the chair and the elections resulted as follows: Hon. pres., Prof. Alfred Baker; pres., J. R. Parry, B.A.; vice-pres., D. A. Sinclair, B.A.; manager, L. E. Jones; captain, H. M. Sinclair; 4th year rep., W. G. Harrison; 3rd year rep., E. P. Brown; 2nd year rep., F. A. McDiarmid; 1st year rep., H. G. Wallace; 3rd and 4th year Meds., A. J. G. McDougall; 1st and 2nd year Meds., J. W. Gray; Victoria, G. A. Ferguson; S.P.S., W. Brereton; Dental, W. McKay; Pharmacy, F. Mitchell; Knox, A. M. Boyd.

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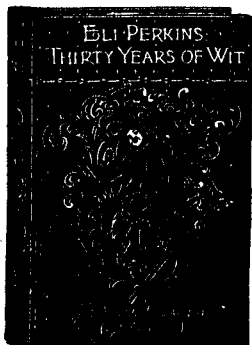


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Education Department Calendar

- APR. 17.—Annual meeting of the Ontario Educational Association at Toronto. (During Easter vacation).
- 23.—Last day for receiving applications for examination of candidates not in attendance at Ontario Normal College.
- 26.—Art School Examinations begin.
- MAY 1.—Notice by candidates for the High School Entrance Examination, to Inspectors due.
- 23.—Notice by candidates for the Public School Leaving, Junior Leaving, Senior Leaving, University Matriculation, Commercial Specialist, Commercial Diploma, and Kindergarten Examinations, to Inspectors due. Empire Day (first school day before 24th May).
- 25.—Examination at Ontario Normal College, Hamilton, begins. (At close of session).
- 26.—Inspectors to report number of candidates for the Public School Leaving, High School Leaving, University Matriculation, Commercial Diploma, Commercial Specialists, and Kindergarten Examinations to Department.
- JUNE 21.—Kindergarten Examinations at Hamilton, London, Ottawa and Toronto, begin.
- 27.—High School Entrance Examinations begin.
- JULY 3.—Public School Leaving, High School Leaving, University Matriculation, and Domestic Science Examinations begin.
- 4.—Commercial Specialists Examinations begin.

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A medical student was asked why he skated on both feet all the time—he replied that he was trying to get the worth of his ten cents.

At the recent oratory contest a young lady in the front row was much puzzled by a Latin (?) remark (dummit), with which one of the orators punctuated the pauses in his address.

A young man once tried oratory
With mind fixed on fame and on glory,
He paused, and said he,—“ I've forgot
it, by Gee,”
And the ladies all felt very sorry.

The favorite quotation of our orators,—
“ The beat of the drum doth follow the
Sun
In his heavenly course which he daily
doth run.” (Daniel Webster).

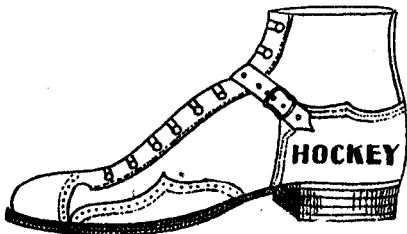
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...sar's office?" "Is there going to be skating on the Varsity rink to-night?" "Don't you know?" "I am so sorry." "Could I speak to Mr. F. R. Eshman." "Can't find him? I should think you ought to be able to find him for me, he goes to University College." "Well, do you think I should find him in if I called this evening?" "Well, you are stupid. Good-bye."

Lives of rich men all remind us
We can make our pile of tin,
And departing leave behind us
Coin that others may blow in.

Last Thursday in the chemical lab. as K. was holding a beaker full of hot sulphuric, nitric and hydrochloric acids to the light the bottom suddenly dropped out and the contents distributed themselves generously over K's ample waistcoat, turning it to a glorious orange color. As K. was emptying the third bottle of ammonia on the wreck and we stood around sympathetically watching him, he started to soliloquize: "'Twas strange, 'twas passing strange. Oh,

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boys, it's too blame bad, the color'll never come back, 'twas strange, 'twas wonderful." "What was strange," we asked. "Why," said K., "three whole day's work gone, beaker smashed, clothes spoiled, and I never swore."

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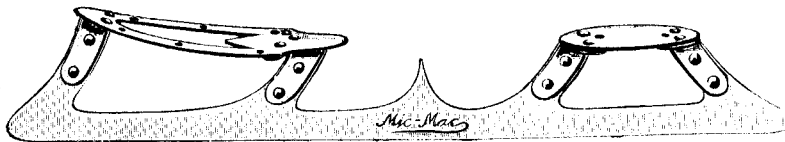
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