

THE WHITE AND BLUE.

VOLUME I.]

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NOVI, UBI SUNT? LEBUNT IN DOMO ROSINA.

Quid ridete? friends, I pray
Glides to-morrow on to-day;
Where no day is, there's no morrow!
Wherefore, therefore, do you sorrow!
If the *novi* dissipate,
They do but anticipate!
Aren't they 'grads, potentially,
Wanting only—their degree?
Go it *novi*, fresh from home, oh!
Go it! in *Rosina Domo!*

Quid ridete? Aristotle,
Being no mean authority,
Says it is most wise to throttle
Future actuality.
And the 'young idea,' says one,
'Is the only *ontos on*.'
'Plato may be wrong, I guess,
He's authority, no less.
Then go it! *novi*, fresh from home, oh!
Go it in *Rosina Domo!*

In the old fraternal shanty,
Where the *novus* left his aunty,
And his sisters and his cousins,
Admiring relatives by dozens,
Surely theirs was not the ditty
To make honorable—their city!
Still, not your fault, *novus homo*;
Go it! in *Rosina Domo!*

Don't you think it is *n.istaken*
Of the sophomores and others,
That they have not hither taken
These, the fresh, as elder brothers?
Are they not inheritors
Of a greater world than ours?
Science doth unfold its bliss
For a later world,—not this.
O novi! most *carissimis!*
Be happy! *beatissimis!*

Henceforth I resign my place
To this younger world than mine.
Novus, yours the haughty face!
For a greater world is thine,
Rosina's cue I'll draw no more;
A greater world is to the fore,
For a later world,—not this.
Ludat in Rosina Domo.

Yours one place to rearward then,
—Right and most poetic justice!—
For they'll more of knowledge ken
Than yourselves, of whom this fuss is.
And a greater cue they'll draw,
And be, by eternal law,
Foremost in the files of Time,
Nearer science's golden prime,
And, since topmost to the sky,
Be *Torque beatissimis!*

—St. Q.

NO MEETING of the Literary Society took place last night, for reasons commented on elsewhere.

It is a matter of some pride to undergraduates generally that their old friend 'Jimmy' has been appointed professor of metaphysics in a well-known eastern college.

LE QUARTIER LATIN.

To the student and scholar the Latin quarter is the most interesting part of Paris. It is richest in historical association of that historical city. Here is the hill known as St. Genevieve, the seat of the oldest University in the world, and the home of that motley crowd of students, monks and adventurers who flocked to it from all quarters of Europe throughout the middle ages, and who spoke so many different languages that by common consent Latin became the recognised tongue of that new babel, and gave rise to the name. Here was the centre of the later Scholasticism; and the Sorbonne containing the bones of Richelieu now rests where Abelard once lectured. Here some of the most memorable scenes of the revolutions had place, and here stands the Pantheon, with the inscription

Aux grands hommes, la patrie reconnaissante
and half a dozen other churches of great beauty, near where was once the second home of the Comedie Francaise, now is seen the theatre l'Odeon. And in our own day we know the Quarter best, perhaps, because Napoleon III. could not ever obtain there a majority favorable to his imperial ideas. Once in the Quarter, the student cannot turn but he will find something of interest. He is in a city devoted to schools and scholars.

Though some of its glory has departed, the University is still one of the leading centres of learning in Europe; it is especially famed for medicine, and to-day at least eight thousand young men are at work in its medical schools and hospitals. And then there is the College of France, the School of Law, l'Ecole Normale, l'Ecole Polytechnique, two large lycées, the Jardin des Plantes, the Luxembourg, with its collections of modern art, the Hotel Clany, with its collections that tell the story of the middle ages, the old Roman Thermes, and a great many other places worthy of notice.

But to the student from America, the student life that he encounters in Paris is the most interesting, and I shall try in another issue to give some account of what I saw of it during the past summer.

M.

NAIVETE.

There has never been an analysis made of Canadian humour. Possibly it is nothing, if it exists at all, but the backwoods aspect of the American article. But there are a good many funny things passing every year through the hands of High-school examiners in Ontario. Naturally the most amusing answers are those on composition. Last year a paper was set for entrance to High-schools requiring a composition on the *Sheep*. A few points for rentaks were supplied, such as its use to mankind, different species, other animals closely related, etc. Without exception they began—'The sheep is a very useful animal to man.' Then came the variations. One says—'The sheep is useful for breeding lambs.' Another—'Its flesh is very nice for mutton in the spring after eating fat ham all winter.' Again—'The sheep is useful because its wool is good for ear-ache.' But the greatest difference of opinion prevailed on allied animals; they were put down as goats, rabbits, calves, and wolves. One little girl said, 'the only animals I know that are closely related to the sheep are rams and lambs.'

EDITORIAL NOTES.

DURING the summer, the Herbarium, which had fallen into a somewhat dilapidated condition, was renovated and catalogued by Prof. McCowan, of Belleville.

COLLEGE journalism is a subject on which there seems to be a pretty evenly-balanced difference of opinion, not only as to the practice generally, but to particular attempts. The head-shaking class of sages pronounce THE WHITE AND BLUE venture 'injudicious,' one of those delightfully indefinite words so dear to these people, and sufficiently misty to afford them a safe retreat in case of objections. On the other hand congratulations have been received from men whose blood circulates.

THE union of the games and Convocation has been effected, and both are to take place on Friday next. It is to be hoped that this will prove beneficial to both, for Convocation certainly needs something outside of itself to reward the good people of Toronto for coming to the college. Even if it could be heard, it is doubtful if the invariably soft-soaping of prizemen would prove very interesting. Of course the classical quotations that always abound at Convocation are the occasion of some merriment to undergraduates, who find in them, however incomprehensible, an opportunity for making a noise. The sports will likely find the poor boob of increased numbers to limit their share of the advantage. It seems only fair that the College Council should relieve the games' committee at least of the expenses of the band.

ABOUT two years ago a debate took place in the Society on Spelling Reform. The advocate of the present system of orthography urged as usual the failure of particular methods of phonetic spelling, and told a story of a man who said he wouldn't be afraid of a *nif* as long as his arm, as that way of writing the word took the edge off the tool. It would be insulting to the Society to say that they regarded these remarks as forcible arguments; it is more charitable to suppose that the speaker's forlorn condition affected the audience; but the decision was in his favor. Nevertheless, the *Saturday Review*, some months since, printed two versions of a poem, one in the ordinary style, the other in Pitman's phonetic long-hand, and appealed to the reader in support of the doctrine that the mode of writing bearing least connection with the sound had the greater poetic effect. It affords a good deal of satisfaction to men who analyse their feelings, to see a magazine so conservative as *Scribner* pointing how purely the added charm of the old printing is due to association. An old lady, known to the writer, thought it perilous to the soul to read a Bible without the long *s* of a hundred years ago.

IT APPEARS that His Excellency the Governor-General found some bones. With the bones were discovered some barbarous ornaments and other evidences of savage character; so they were all put in a box and sent to Toronto for Dr. Wilson to identify. He declares them to have belonged to an Indian who lived at some remote period before the discovery of America. This distin-

guished anthropologist, whom we are fortunate enough to number among our professors, has been for some time engaged in cataloguing the ethnological department of the museum, which includes typical heads of all the principal races, with casts of others, and specimens of primitive tools, ornaments, etc. Many of the most valuable of these Dr. Wilson has obtained by exchanging for them American archaeological specimens collected by himself, with the British Museum and the Jardin des Plantes at Paris. Dr. Wilson is very anxious to obtain the co-operation of undergraduates in making this collection, and certainly they might take the trouble to pick up and forward to him arrowheads and remains of agricultural implements that many of them see thrown away every year as worthless. Students from the rural constituencies might confer a benefit on mankind with very little pains and no expense, while the name of donors is always attached to articles presented to the museum.

SHOOTING REGULATIONS.

There exists the greatest difference in the regulations with regard to rifle practice in this country and the United States. Here volunteers are required to fire annually fifteen rounds of ammunition, but it makes no difference where the lead goes to; it is just as effective in drawing pay as if it hit the ball every time. Now, at Creedmoor, members of the National Guard are obliged to qualify, *i. e.*, obtain a certain score every year. Not only so, but they must reach a standard at 100, 150, 200 and 300 yards before proceeding to the 400 and 500 yard ranges. More than this, a regular position is assumed at each range: standing at 100, 150 and 200 yards; kneeling at 300 yards; lying down at 400 and 500 yards.

PHRENOLOGY.

Grip doesn't set up to be a scientific journal; but the alleged sciences of Phrenology and Physiology never received so complete or so convincing a refutation as from *Grip*, of Sept. 20th. Here are represented the Hon. Edward Blake, and Secretary Everts. The figures are drawn just as they ought to be, in that bold manner of Mr. Bengough's which just gives what is necessary to the likeness, the very essence of it, in a way that no known caricaturist can approach, not even Sambourne. Here, then, are two men who have made their marks in exactly the same pursuits—Law and Politics. If two men ought to look alike: these are they. But look at them, not a feature the same; the crania exhibiting even a more startling dissimilarity. Why, the phrenologists have not so much left them as their favorite refuge, temperament. Usually, when you point out a man whose bumps indicate a particular character, and whose character is not anything in particular, or anything like the one inferred from the cranial development, they say, 'Oh, he hasn't got the proper temperament to give the character force; he is like an engine without steam.' In the present example there can be no appeal to lack of force. Surely, Mr. *Grip* is to be thanked for exposing frauds that are not always political.

THE Society Reading Room is now open (to those who have paid their subscriptions), and tolerably well supplied with matter. Local weeklies, of course, are not very numerous yet, and there is a corresponding paucity of readers. No better evidence can be found of the excellent domestic qualities of the Canadian youth than the heroic way he will throw aside Aeschylus to read the advertisements in the paper from his native hamlet

LOVE AND WAR.

Emerson says that the Greek mythology is true for all times because it is the product of the imagination, and not of the fancy. One of the truest things in it is the representation of Cupid carrying arms. 'Heaven is under the shadow of the sword,' says Mahomet; and surely the sword quivers with the beating of the heart. We know there is no greater stimulus to competition than feminine approval, 'no subtler master under the heaven than is the maiden passion for a maid;' and we have seen, too, the way a British female worships a red coat; but it is left, as most things are, for the United States to turn these emotions to account in business. A good many years ago Thackeray wrote a poem on the number of enlistments made in the American war of the Rebellion through disappointments in love. Now we see the ingenious device put in practice to make men drill, of inviting ladies to the armoury to witness the manoeuvres, and then ending with a dance.

PROF. WRIGHT has secured a stock of about two hundred frogs for use during the winter. Some of them are enormous, one fellow measuring thirteen inches in length.

THE annual match of the Queen's Own Rifles a week ago, afforded the University Company an opportunity of shewing the world the inestimable benefits of education, in having the young idea thoroughly taught how to shoot. One member made a score of twenty-five at two hundred yards; another won fifth prize; and the Company came within two points of getting second prize for shooting in skirmishing order. In fact the Company's prospects are altogether bright. With active non-commissioned officers, a fine-looking and enthusiastic body of recruits, nothing seems wanting but time for drill to make this one of the best companies in the battalion.

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NEWS ITEMS.

When the American regiment formed a line of battle in the sham-fight at Montreal last May, Sir Edward Selby Smythe told Col. Austin he would inquire into the movement, having never seen it done so quickly.

YESTERDAY the prizes won at the last examination were presented at the Collegiate Institute. The presence of the Mayor and others made the ceremony more imposing. Among the recipients of prizes were the gentlemen from the Institute who obtained first class honors at the Matriculation Examinations in June.

NOTHING struck the Americans at Montreal so much as the way the Canadian bands played the 'British Grenadier.' The furious flourishing of the bass drum stick amused them exceedingly, and one part of the programme at Dodworth's concert in Gilmore's Gardens used to be 'British Grenadier a la Canadienne.'

IT is a curious fact that the day the first number of THE WHITE AND BLUE was issued, the little aperture in the fence between the College and the School of Science was closed by order of the authorities. May the paper ever be attended with the same success in calling attention to things that are out of order. The students may look forward immediately to the righting of certain abuses mentioned in another column, which might include the need of a gymnasium and a side-walk leading to the Society Reading Rooms.

One of the most fortunate things that happened the undergraduates of University College is the transference of the Logic lectures to Prof. Young. Already a renewed interest is felt in the study. Pass-men particularly express their satisfaction. Among his listeners at a lecture on Kant recently, this accomplished gentleman had Mr. Justice Moss, who at the close declared himself justly interested. *The Globe*, in commenting on this change, proposes that the Professor of English Literature should include rhetoric in his course. Certainly no more capable lecturer could be found than Dr. Wilson.

AT A MEETING of the General Committee, held on Tuesday, the homeless condition of the Society was discussed with groans that grew more agonizing as item after item was presented calling for expenditure of funds that are not. It was a sad vision, that of the warrior who carries the scars of a hundred fights, seated on an enormous throne, the only seat in the room, his myriads weeping about him. And who can reproach them? Is it wonderful that one should brush away a tear when he told of drains, of paint, of bad air and indiscriminate spaur? Is it surprising that souls should shake the breast of him who spake of doubled fees? It was found impossible to have a meeting of the Society last night for want of seats and light. Such a meeting was thought of, but several members opposed the plan of making the Society sit cross-legged on the floor, on the ground that such a posture was undignified and un-English. Again, others threw cold water on the idea of employing for illumination the gas which forms so large a component of the proceedings of literary societies in general. A proposition which met with more favor was to apply to the Ontario Government for aid in fitting up a reading room and hall. It was thought that there could be no reasonable doubt of success if the first vice-president were despatched to give the Local House his famous speech containing the *Omnium-regina-rcrum-oratio* clause, with his celebrated metaphor of the 'snow-queen.' A more effective method was thought to consist in sending the Ministry photographs of the General Committee in their present disconsolate condition. These motions were laid on the floor, (no table being on hand.) Despite these melancholy circumstances, arrangements were made for writing the editors of THE WHITE AND BLUE, imploring their support in the great works to be undertaken by the General Committee. The meeting then adjourned.

THE COLLEGE WORLD.

ONE of our professors is as hairless as St. Paul, and tells a great many stories at his own expense. He was walking near a house in the North-west, where he had once staid some time and where he flattered himself he was pretty well known. The young ladies were playing croquet on the lawn when he entered the gate, and they told him the garden was not open to the public. At this he took off his hat, when they immediately recognized him.

An individual at Cambridge was anxious to get a degree in Music. It was necessary for him first to graduate in Arts, and here his difficulties were almost as great as his perseverance. At one examination in which he was rejected, Lord Royston, a clever fellow, but whose time was all spent in cricket, failed to obtain the requisite marks, tho', as a peer, he, of course, received his degree. The musical gentleman took great delight in telling his friends that "Me and Lord Royston was plucked."

There was once a professor at Oxford who believed in spiritualism and wrote a book on the subject. While occupied on the work he went down one morning to London. There, at a corner he came face to face with a student and recognized him at once. Now the student had no business to be anywhere but at Oxford, and he knew it, so he conceived the happy idea of working on the professor's credulity. He walked straight up to that dignitary, whirled his umbrella round three times very near the learned man's nose and then disappeared down a lane. He took the first train for Oxford and reached there before the professor. The same evening he called on the spiritualist and told him that he had a most amazing experience to relate; he knew he said that the professor had gone to London, but that day at a quarter past eleven (the hour of the London meeting) a manifestation of the gentleman appeared to him suddenly, swung his umbrella round three times in silence and vanished. The professor enthusiastically noted down the occurrence, which appeared in his book.

A new and more stringent code of regulations has recently been printed for the guidance of students attending the University of St. Petersburg. It re-affirms the statute of 1863, and prohibits the students from holding concerts, as also dramatic, reading, and other public assemblies. Besides his residential ticket, the student will receive a ticket of admission to the lectures, which he will be bound to carry always with him, and show, when required, to either of the university inspectors or members of the city police force. The university police may from time to time visit the students' rooms, particularly in the event of their failing to attend lectures punctually. The students are prohibited from having in their possession books or prints of a seditious character and printed matter of an indecent kind; out of regard for their good name, they are to refrain from visiting improper localities; they must be present in the lecture-room before the professor arrives, and remain till the conclusion of his lecture. If a student is absent more than three days from his class the cause of his non-attendance must be notified to the inspector.



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CORRIGENDA.

It has been said, among numerous adages relating to British rights and splanetic wrongs, that the one thing that renders the college residence tolerable, is the privilege of grumbling. There can be no doubt that even where grievances are not actually removed, open discussion makes them easier to bear, as people reduce fever and inflammation when they have the courage to groan. Undergraduates, having now the columns of THE WHITE AND BLUE open to them, need be no longer 'voiceless in their woe;' and the sooner they make known their needs the better. That they have grievances, and deeply-rooted ones, is proved by looking over a list prepared as long ago as 1875, every item of which has augmented force in 1879. Thus: (1) Increased residence accommodation is required; (2) a thoroughly equipped gymnasium; (3) as well as a better stock of books to choose from in selecting prizes; (4) a course of university sermons, appealing to a cultivated and thoughtful audience, would be much appreciated during the winter months; (5) a Professor of Law is sadly wanted; (6) some variety and interest should be introduced in the proceedings of Convocation and other public occasions (not a decent cheer has been heard for ten years); (7) means should be devised for keeping up graduates' connection with the college; (8) To which may be added: (8) the farce of caps and gowns as too expensive a joke for a poor country in hard times; (9) the inhuman practice of withholding overcoats from the University company, and (10) the difficulty in getting books from the library over night. No doubt 'To be continued.'

FIAT JUSTITIA, RUAT CÆLUM.

REVERSING the order found in *rerum natura*, national traditions seem to grow more imperishable through age, and frequently the legends of associations outlive even these. Such has certainly been the case with Masonic and other observances; but perhaps the condition of early society was more favorable to their transmission than the irreverent to-day. At least I have such a theory, and intend some day to send THE WHITE AND BLUE an essay on the subject, accompanied by diagrams, and apodictically prove the position. However, for the present it is enough to notice that certain customs held sacred about University College have lately been subjected to a most destructive revision. Residents used to point with satisfaction to a mound in the quad, said to rest upon the bones of fourteen neophytes, whose early death was due to cheek. With tears of pride they used to recite those weird ballads of wild work in the 'Lightning Express.' Shades, whose presence turns light green (instead of blue as other ghosts), will haunt the vaults beneath the tower in *seculum seculorum*. But the heroic age is past. The era of civilized initiation and semi-human treatment of first year men has commenced. The ancient *Societas ad Initiandos Tyrones* has been organized on a hard money basis; an elaborate constitution adopted; the ritual re-written in more elegant language, though less adapted perhaps to the comprehension of novices. The old inscription upon the door, *Lasciate ogni speranza voi ch' entrate*, is retained, but shorn of half its meaning. Verily, these are degenerate days. SAU.

DURING the summer, the daily papers announced the death of an undergraduate, called Mc—. Now this is not an uncommon name about the College, and every body had the picture of Mc he knew laid out and buried and wept over. Some students of the —th year were discussing the deaths that had taken place, and expressed their sorrow at the demise of the Mc of their class. One declared that he did look very ill in May, and the rest remembered that he had a very broken down appearance; when to their dismay Mc is seen approaching (he's rather tall) as well as ever, only a little provoked with the Examiners.

COLLEGE SPORTS.

The order of the events to take place next Friday afternoon is as follows:—1, half-mile race; 2, flat race, 100 yards; 3, graduates' race, quarter-mile; 4, mile race; 5, hurdle race, 220 yards; 6, strangers' race (open to amateurs), quarter mile; 7, three-legged race, 100 yards; 8, half-mile race, open to undergraduates of all Canadian universities; 9, championship race, quarter-mile; 10, consolation race, 220 yards.

A MEETING of undergraduates took place on Wednesday, at which a committee of management for the annual sports was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Shortt (president), Armour (secretary), McDougall, Hague, Loudon, Gwynne, Milligan, Laidlaw, Bristol, Woodruff, Campbell, Cameron, Wright, and Boultebe. The minor events were to begin at 9.30 this morning, the major take place on Friday afternoon, October 17th. It is expected that the games will be under the patronage of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor. One race (half-mile) is open to undergraduates of all Canadian universities.

FOOTBALL.—The University College Football Club is actively engaged in practice already, and matches are proposed with Trinity College, Hamilton, Upper Canada College, Toronto, Feterboro' Trinity College School, etc. The financial condition of the club is satisfactory, and though several of the most efficient players of last year have ceased to belong to the team, the large first year promises plenty of material to fill their places. The following are the officers of the club for the season:—Messrs. W. D. Gwynne (captain), C. Campbell (secretary-treasurer), Fairbank, Shortt, McAndrew, Blake, McDougall, Woodruff, George, and Wright.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.—A general meeting was held yesterday to choose men for vacant positions. The constitution was changed so as to provide for a corresponding secretary, to which office Mr. James McDougall was elected. Members of the committee were selected from the first year, Messrs. Hagarty and George. The annual meeting of the Dominion Association took place last night at Thomas' Chop House. Fifteen clubs were represented, most of which have signified their intention of competing for the Challenge Cup. The following officers were elected:—President, His Excellency the Marquis of Lorne; secretary-treasurer, W. Lowrey, Esq. Mr. J. McDougall represents the University College Association and Mr. A. B. Dobson Knox College. Some discussion took place over a change in the Scottish Association. The Knox College Club received their badges as being the champions of last year. The University College Association have made arrangements to attend the tournament at Colborne at the end of the month.

GOOD TALKING.

There is an impression among people who talk and write that the art of conversation has died, or is dying out; and there are not as many remarkable talkers in the world as there were, and that the present generation will leave no such records of brilliant conversation as some of its predecessors have done. We suspect that the impression is a sound one, and that for some reason, not apparent on the surface, less attention has been bestowed upon the art of talking than formerly. It may be that the remarkable development of the press, which has given opportunity for expression to everybody, with a great audience to tempt the writer, has drawn attention from an art demanding fine skill, with only the reward of an audience always limited in numbers, and an influence quite incommensurate with the amount of vitality expended.

Still, there are doubtless many who would like to be good talkers. Social importance and consideration are perhaps more easily won by the

power of good talking than by any other means, wealth and the ability to keep a hospitable house not excepted. A really good talker is always at a social premium, so that a knowledge of the requisites of good talking will be of interest to a great many bright people. For it must be confessed that men's ideas of the art are very crude and confused. When we talk of 'the art of conversation' people really do not know what we mean. They do not know what the art is, or how it may be cultivated; or, indeed, that it is anything more than a natural knack.

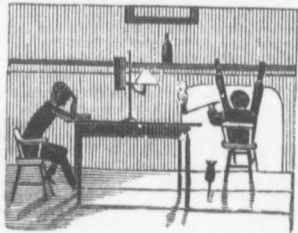
The first requisite of a good talker is genuine social sympathy. A man may not say, out of some selfish motive, or some motive of personal policy, 'Go to! I will become a good talker.' He must enjoy society, and have a genuine desire to serve and please. We have all seen the talker who talks for his own purposes, or talks to please himself. He is the well-known character—the talking bore. The talker who gets himself up for show, who plans his conversations for an evening, and crams for them, becomes intolerable. He lectures; he does not converse; for there is no power of a talker so delightful as that of exciting others to talk, and listening to what his own inspiring and suggestive utterances have called forth. Genuine social sympathy and a hearty desire to please others are necessary to produce such a talker as this, and no other is tolerable. Social sympathy is a natural gift, and there is a combination of other gifts which constitute what may be called *esprit*, that are very essential to a good talker. This combination includes individuality, tact and wit—the talents, aptitudes and peculiar characteristic charm which enable a man to use the materials of conversation in an engaging way, entirely his own; for every good talker has his own way of saying good things, as well as of managing conversation based on his *esprit*.

Yet it is true that there are no good talkers who depend upon their natural gifts and such material as they get in the usual interchanges of society. For the materials of conversation we must draw upon knowledge. No man can be a thoroughly good talker who does not know a great deal. Social sympathy and 'the gift of gab' go but a short way toward producing good conversation, though we hear a great deal of this kind of talk among the young. Sound and exact knowledge is the very basis of good conversation. To know a great many things well is to have in hand the best and most reliable materials of good conversation. There is nothing like abundance and exactness of knowledge with which to furnish a talker. Next to this, perhaps, is familiarity with polite literature. The faculty of quoting from the best authors is a very desirable one. Facts are valuable, and thoughts perhaps are quite as valuable, especially as they are more stimulating to the conversation of a group. The talker who deals alone in facts is quite likely to have the talk all to himself, while the man who is familiar with thoughts and ideas, as he has found them embodied in literature, becomes a stimulator of thought and conversation in those around him. Familiarity with knowledge and with the products of literary art cannot be too much insisted on as the furniture of good conversation.

Beyond this, the good talker must be familiar with current thought and events of his time. There should be no movement in politics, religion and society, that the good talker is not familiar with. Indeed, the man who undertakes to talk at all must know what is uppermost in men's minds, and be able to add to the general fund of thought and knowledge, and respond to the popular inquiry and the popular disposition for discussion. The man who undertakes to be a good talker should never be caught napping concerning any current topic of immediate public interest.

How to carry and convey superiority of knowledge and culture without appearing to be pedantic, how to talk out of abundant stores of information and familiarity with opinion without seeming to preach, as Coleridge was accused of doing, belongs, with the ability to talk well, to 'the art of conversation.' It has seemed to us that if young people

could only see how shallow and silly very much of their talk is, and must necessarily be, so long as they lack the materials of conversation, they would take more pains with their study, would devote themselves more to the best books, and that, at least, they would acquire and maintain more familiarity with important current events. To know something is the best cure for neighborhood gossip, for talk about dress, and for ten thousand frivolities and silliness of society. Besides, a good talker needs an audience to understand and respond to him, and where is he to find one if there is not abundant culture around him?—*Scribner's Monthly*.



Smith—This 'Troïades' of Euripides is just one long wail.

Brown—Whale? About fifty feet?

Smith—Yes; lots of blubber in it.

W. & D. DINEEN,

HATTERS AND FURRIERS,



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