

NO. 3.

♥ ASTRUM \$ ALBERTI.

BELLEVILLE,



CANADA.

MARCH, 1883.

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*ASTRUM * ALBERTI.

Vol. I.

BELLEVILLE, MARCH, 1883.

No. 3.

Astrum Alberti.

Published in TEN NUMBERS during the Academic Year, in the interests of the STUDENTS of Albert College.

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Business letters should be addressed to the Secretary, Mr. J. T. LILLIE, Belleville, Ont.

Exchanges should be addressed to the Managing Editor.

As the term draws to a close students devote their time more rigidly to their books. We hear but little of the long walks and evening parties which were so common at the first of the session. Examinations are only a few weeks off, and that means that a year's work must be reviewed in a short time, and much new work is still untouched. Our session is considerably longer than that of most other Canadian Universities, but we find it none too long to do justice to the work laid down, and to shorten the session would necessitate the course being lightened in proportion. Hilary term closes on the 4th of April, and Trinity opens on the 12th, and little can be done during the remaining few weeks but make a final review for examinations.

WE regret that we were unable to procure the manuscript of the Charter Day sermon delivered by Rev. R. I. Warner, B.A., which was one of the best we have listened to for some time. We trust, however, that Mr. Warner will favor us with an article for publication at his earliest convenience.

WE give in another column an account of the Gipsy concert given by the ladies of Alma College. We are gratified to learn of their success, and are very much pleased to see Alma taking so prominent a position among the Ladies' Colleges of this Province. We are proud of our sisters in the West.

WE are not yet satisfied with the result of our appeal to the friends of Old Albert, for assistance in carrying on the ASTRUM. A goodly number have expressed their good wishes for its prosperity, and have sent in the amount of their subscription to aid in its support. We tender them our hearty thanks. But many from whom we expected immediate replies, have failed as yet to acknowledge the receipt of the paper. We presume that this is more through neglect than on account of any apathy to the ASTRUM but as we face our printer every month, it is necessary that subscriptions be paid in advance. We have found from experience that this is the easier and more satisfactory way to do, as paying ing for a paper after it has been due for some time, is very much like paying for a dead horse. It is our intention to issue on the third Saturday of each month, and if there should be any irregularity in receiving the paper, subscribers will please notify us, and we will endeavor to rectify it immediately.

THE first and second year men of Toronto University, have formed a mock Parliament aside from the regular Literary Society, in order that they may more freely discuss the questions of the day, and become more accustomed to impromptu speaking. We have had some experience in this matter, as the Historical Society has been conducted as a Parliament for a number of years. This manner of conducting a Society has its advantages, but it has its disadvantages as well. The members certainly become more ready speakers, and have a better knowledge of business forms and Parliamentary rules, but at the same time they become less exact

in their language and manner of speaking. Young speakers, especially, should make careful preparation before attempting to express their opinions on any subject. There is not generally any vital principle upon which the members will divide, so as to form two parties necessary for a Parliamentary Society, and consequently much the islost in useless argument, and in personalities. We are becoming more strongly convinced that a Literary Society should be conducted in such a manner as to make careful preparation necessary for each appearance before the Society.

THE University Calendar is now before the public.

In the Almanac the principal changes are such as arise from the statute making all examinations annual, and requiring them to begin one week earlier. Also supplemental examinations are to be held in September only.

The course for the degree of B.A. has been considerably changed. The Senate, believing that the training of a University should be broad and general, rather than special, retained until the present year, an extensive pass course, to which students applied themselves exclusively throughout their first and third years, and a large part of the second; the fourth and the remainder of the second being devoted to honor work.

The charter of the University, however, makes it necessary that the standard of qualification be not lower than that of Toronto University, and so honor courses equal to those of Toronto University were added. The result was, that students had to confine themselves to a pass course, or undertake an honor course, which few were able to master in the allotted time.

A number chose to take five years to prepare the course. Still this was found a grievance.

In order, then, that no more be required of the students, than at other universities, the Senate has lessened the pass course, thus allowing the greater part of three years to be spent in the preparation of honor work.

Text books are changed from time to time, so

that the freshest and best thought may be placed in the hands of the student.

The course for the degree of Civil Engineer, has been materially altered. Little has been added except in the mathematical department, but the course has been distributed over three years instead of two.

In the Divinity course the four years' study, previously required, has been shortened to three, the percentage on papers submitted to candidates considerably raised, and altogether, a much more attractive and desirable curriculum presented.

The other changes will speak for themselves, Altogether the Calendar would have been the best ever published, had the mechanical work been performed as desired.

DUTY ON BOOKS.

WE are glad to know that several colleges throughout the Dominion are making an effort to secure the removal of the duty on books, especially such books as are designed for public libraries and collegiate work. The Government at Ottawa could do nothing that would be more satisfactory to all concerned than the repealing of the Act touching the point under consideration. We believe in every citizen bearing his share of the public burden, but there are special reasons that could very satisfactorily be presented in support of the present agitation. A tax, either direct or indirect, on the circulation of knowledge and the literary elevation of a people, is certainly not for the general good, especially when such tax is not needed to supplement a revenue largely in advance of the public expenditure. There should be a constant and determined effort to convert uneducated into educated labor. It is calculated that the net gain from such results alone would increase the wealth of the United States by the handsome sum of \$400,000,000.00 annually. Ignorance has certainly never been the road to national or individual wealth.

We are yet a young country and it can hardly be expected that we would possess a native literature in the Sciences, and in all the highest departments of thought. As a matter of fact we must look to

other countries, and especially to the mother land for many years to come, for the freshest and best thought of the age. Old countries have more leisure, larger libraries, and better facilities in every way for literary labor than we can possibly hope to have, until the bustle and activity, incident to the settlement and development of new territory, settle finto the quiet ease that age and wealth alone can give. In the meantime every encouragement should be given to make our difficulties and discouragements as few as possible.

The expenses of a student at college are necessarily heavy. The most careful economy still leaves it a very difficult matter for many of our most worthy young men to carry themselves through a college course. Books are to him what machinery is to a manufacturer. They are the tools of his craft. He must through them converse with the best thinkers past and present; find the guides to conduct him through the tortuous paths of history; and solicit in the printed volume the invaluable aid of others, to develop his own intellectual powers, and unfold to him the wealth of his own being, and the priceless treasures lying around him on every hand. But, alas, no free public libraries are at his service, and the student is left to his own resources, already exhausted, in order to possess himself of the desired help. The limited circulation of works such as he needs, makes them of necessity costly, and to add to that cost by a high tariff, is to a very large extent to make uneducated labor perform at greater cost to the country what educated labor would more satisfactorily, efficiently, and economically accomplish. The laws of the most civilized countries, exempt the necessary implements of labor in any profession, from seizure for debt on the ground that, when the tools of his craft have been taken from the laborer, the possibility of meeting his obligations has been completely preclosed. Let the student enjoy similar encouragement, and protection, by attaching something of sacredness to books, without which his progress would be crippled, and the community at large be deprived of the beneficial results of his labor.

Let there be a general rally for repeal, and we believe that without attaching any political significance to the action, the Government will be persuaded to accede to our request.

CHARTER DAY.

THE Charter Day Services, held on February 15th, in commemoration of the passing of the Act incorporating Albert College, a University with power to grant degrees in all the Arts and Faculties, were more than usually attractive. At the hour of opening, (2 p.m.) the College Chapel was filled with students and friends of the institution, who always take an interest in College exercises. The services were conducted in the following order:

Responsive reading of the 103 Psalm, led by Rev. Dr. Badgley.

Prayer by the President.

Reading of the lesson, from Proverbs, chapter viii, by Prof. Dyer.

Reading of the charter, by Mr. J. H. Packham. Charter Day Sermon, delivered by Rev. R. I. Warner, B.A.

The sermon was one of peculiar interest, and showed much thought and careful preparation. The text was chosen from Acts, 1, 8, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come uponyou." The preacher showed that a desire is in all for power, the different elements of human power, and that true and lasting power comes through the influence of the Holy Ghost.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION.

In the evening the Annual Exhibition of the Historical Society was held. Circumstances seemed to be unfavorable for a successful exhibition, but, notwithstanding the unfavorable weather, and counter attractions of a political meeting in the City, the Chapel was filled at an early hour with an agreeable and an attentive audience. The Society was opened in regular form, the Speaker reading prayers, and Misses Cummings and Lingham, furnishing an instrumental duet. Prof. Dyer was then installed as President of the Society for the ensuing year. The programme was then proceeded with, as follows:

Pianoforte solo by Miss Conger.

The Essayist, Mr. Street, read an essay on the French Revolution.

Vocal Solo, Mr. Edgar.

Miss French recited. "Drowned," in excellent style.

Vocal solo by Miss Embury, "The Blind Girl to her Harp.

Debate Subject: "The world is advancing towards perfection." The affirmative was supported by Messrs. Wallbridge and Connor, and negative by Messrs. Donoghue and Ferguson. The decision was given by the audience in favor of the affirmative.

The historian, Mr. Forin, was unavoidably absent, and his history was read by Mr. Macoun.

Vocal solo, Prof. Stanistreet.

W. P. Ferguson delivered an oration on The Augustan Age.

Instrumental quartette by Misses Abercrombie, French, Vrooman and Powers.

The President elect then delivered his inaugural address, commenting upon the state and influence of the Society, after which the exhibition closed with "God save the Queen."

We think we can safely say that this was the most successful exhibition yet given by the Historical Society. The members, thrown upon their own resources, did themselves and the Society credit, by the manner in which they acquitted themselves. The interest of Prof. Stanistreet, and the kindness of the ladies of Alexandra College, in furnishing music for the occasion, is certainly commendable.

PRESENTATION TO PROFESSOR MACOUN.

A number of citizens, together with a large representation of the University of Albert College, and a few members of the Board of Education, met in the Council Chamber to witness a presentation to Professor John Macoun, M.A., F.L.S., F.R. S.C., of a testimonial accompanied by an address. The meeting was opened at 8:30, by the Chairman of the School Board, Mr. Wm. Johnson, who stated the object of the gathering, and paid a graceful tribute to the guest of the evening.

The Secretary of the Joint Committee, Prof. J. T. Bell, read the address, which was as follows:

To Prof. Macoun, M.A., F.I#S.

The undersigned, on behalf of the University of Albert College, the Board of Education of the City of Belleville, and the citizens at large of the said City, while congratulating you upon the recognition accorded to your ability by the Government of

Canada in appointing you to the position of NATU-RALIST OF THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, feel constrained at the same time to express our deep regret, that your acceptance of that position involves your removal from our vicinity.

In requesting your acceptance of the accompanying testimonial, we do so, not on account of its intrinsic value, but because it is intended to represent, in material and permanent form, the kindly feelings of respect and esteem which we entertain towards you personally, and our thorough appreciation of the value of your public services, and to serve as a token that we will in the future watch your course with the same interest with which we have viewed your progress, by your unaided industry and energy, from the comparatively humble position of a Public School Teacher to the LINNÆAN SOCIETY OF ENGLAND and the ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA.

In bidding you farewell, we feel that though the separation may be for your advantage, it is a loss to ourselves, and we express the fervent hope, that good fortune, health and happiness may attend yourself and amiable partner and family, wherever and however your lot may be cast.

In reply Prof. Macoun gave a short sketch of his life. When he came here 28 years ago as an humble school teacher, he did his duty without regard to creed or party, and he hoped to be spared long to do the same in the future. The two best friends he had in Belleville were Prof. Bell and Bishop Carman, but while these two gentlemen had been his most intimate friends, there were others around him whom he could look upon as friends of long standing. He thought the City was blessed with a good School Board and a competent staff of teachers. He regretted to part with such a band of friends, but from now until the day of his death he would look upon Belleville as his real home.

The Chairman called upon Bishop Carman, who made a few suitable remarks. In his opening he referred humorously to the reason why the people had gathered to honor Prof. Macoun. The latter, he said, was a good citizen, whom he had always loved to honor. The Speaker regretted the direct assistance which the University of Albert College

would lose by the removal of Prof. Macoun from amongst us. In times gone by when this Institution was not in a flourishing financial condition, Prof. Macoun came forward and gave valuable assistance—merely because he had a love of the work. Now the time has come to say good-bye to this self taught man—a duty we all regret to perform. While we do this, we all join in congratulating the Professor on his prosperity, and we hope he will live long to honor this "Canada of ours."

A number of others spoke, including Dr. Jaques, Mayor Lingham, and J. W. Johnson of the Ontario Business College, all bearing testimony to the good qualities of the Professor, congratulating him on the success which he has achieved, and wishing him long life to honor the work of which he is so capable a master.

The tea-service presented was one of the most chaste and beautiful ever gotten up here. It consisted of six pieces of solid silver, with gold lining, and on the large salver was the following inscription: "Presented to John Macoun, M.A., F.L.S., F.R.S.C., by the University of Albert College, the Board of Education, and citizens of Belleville, in token of esteem for his personal character and appreciation of his public service."

GIPSY CONCERT AT ALMA COLLEGE.

WE received, through the St. Thomas Journal, an account of the Gipsy Concert given by the ladies of Alma College, on the evening of February 15th. It thus describes the scene revealed by the raising of the curtain:

Seated around on the stage in picturesque attitudes were about fifty fanciful attired girls, resplendent in all the colors of the rainbow, with silver and gold tinsel, tinkling bangles, turbaned heads, flowing hair, and heavy old fashioned jewelry. A woodland scene lent its aid, and the illusion, that the gaze rested upon a veritable gipsy camp would have been complete, only that there were too many pretty faces, and an absence of the necessary dirt to make it quite real.

The programme consisted of solos, choruses and glees, in which some fifty ladies took part. The concert was well attended and highly appreciated by the people of St. Thomas. The successful manner in which the arrangements were made and car-

ried out, reflects much credit on our sisters at Alma, and we think that if their big brothers from Albert had been there to make tinware and trade horses, the Gipsy part would have been complete. We add our congratulations.

PETITION TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

To the Honorable, the Commons of the Dominion of Canada, in Parliament assembled, the Petition of the undersigned citizens and students of Albert University and Albert College, Belleville, Ont. Sheweth:

That your petitioners believe that every laudable effort should be made to foster the intellectual development of the citizens of our fair Dominion.

That the influence at home and abroad of any State or Civil Society, is largely the result of its intellectual status.

That vice is logically and historically associated with ignorance, and a direct out-growth of the same.

That duties upon imported books are not needed to increase the revenue, and are an indirect tax upon knowledge, and a barrier to an intellectual status that would otherwise be reached.

May it, therefore, please your Honorable House to remove such duties, and thus secure to the Dominion of Canada the largest blessings that may follow from an enlarged and liberal education, and a more general circulation of the freshest and best thought of other countries, and especially of our Mother Land,

And your petitioners will ever pray. Signed by,

J. R. JAQUES, D. D., PRES., E. I. BADGLEY, B. L. D., PROF, J. T. BELL, ESQ., POF. A. W. BANNISTER, B.A., PROF., W. P. DYER, M.A. PROF., G. F. METZLER, B.A., PROF., JNO. MACGILLIVRAY, B.A., PROF., J. A. STANISTREET, ESQ., PROF., AND OTHERS.

President Angell has just issued his report of Michigan University. The number of students is 1,534, second only to that of Harvard, which leads with over 1,600. Of Ann Arbor's 1,534 students. 184 are women.—*Ex*.

Contributed.

A PLEA FOR EVOLUTION.

THE Scientific and Biblical worlds of to-day are stirred to their foundations by this much abused, much talked of, but little understood, theory of evolution. All great minds feel constrained to express an opinion, "pro" or "con." "Suchunmitigated nonsense some profess to accept, while they reject the cosmogony of the Bible," says one. "Evolution, anti-Bible, anti-science, anti-common sense," says another. Dana, Davson, Bell, Miller, and others, declare against its principles, but respect its advocates. Yet Dana says, "Geology * may be said to have searched out the mode of development of a world."

As supporters of this doctrine we find a truly formidable phalanx: Hæchel, Huxley and Spencer, accept it in its ultra form; with slight modifications, it is adopted by Darwin, Wallace, Tyndall, Dr. McCosh, Henry Ward Beecher, Chapman, and others.

While our faith is unshaken in the "God of the Bible" yet as an humble, plodding pilgrim towards the Mecca of science, we believe that an hypothesis, supported by such powerful names, and sustained by such convincing arguments, deserves our most earnest attention.

"Infidels have a faith huge enough to swallow all this mass of mystification, but they cannot accept the simple, *rational* statements of Moses and other Bible writers."

Is this theory so very irrational?

Evolution develops man from a high form of mammalia, Christianity fashions him from the dust. Evolution accounts for the gradual advance of life through geological ages upon scientific principles, Christianity by separate creations. Evolution postulates the existence of inanimate matter from eterniyt, Christianity that of an omnipotent, omniscient deity.

Evolution, upon strong evidence, claims the truth of "spontaneous generation," and thus explains the existence of life on our planet, Christianity claims a miraculous creation out of nothing, and must follow this wonder by myriads of others, Evolution offers tangible, visible proofs, Christianity requires infinite faith and childish credulity.

It would be worse than foolish to attempt a discussion of a: y one of the numerous branches of the great tree of Evolution, within the limits of our College paper; but evolution, as a scientific theory, as an honest expression of the opinions of the world's leading scientists, and as a widely accepted doctrine, justly claims from thoughtful minds, something better than ridicule. John Tyndall, a Theistic Evolutionist, has triumphantly disproved the Hæchel-Bastian doctrine of "Abiogenesis."

Why cannot Christian champions arise, leavethe rude, derisive laugh to those capable of wielding no stronger weapons and fight valiantly for the truth with earnestness and with science?

A. R. C.

College Societies.

A. L. I.

There was a good muster of No. 6 Company on February 25th, when the men assembled with their lady friends to enjoy the unbounded hospitality of their esteemed captain. An hour or more was spent in the exchange of social greetings, when the door was opened to the dining room, and command given, "fall in;" there was found "enough for each, enough for all, and enough for many more." Vocal and instrumental music, recitations, charades and various other games occupied the time until long after the light had been extinguished in the old town clock. The party separated singing, "For he's a jolly good fellow," and all went home more than pleased with the night's enjoyment. We hope that we may some time be able to reciprocate the kindness of Capt. and Mrs. Walmsley.

Corp. Donoghue has been appointed Sergeant, in the place of Sergeant Austin, who has withdrawn, and Pte. Metzler has been appointed Corporal in the place of Corporal Donoghue.

We are glad to announce that Capt. Walmsley was successful at the recent Military Examinations, and that he is now a properly qualified officer.

"Is thy servant a dog?" quoth an indignant Soph, when his landlord dished him out a huge bone for his dinner.—Queen's College Journal.

A young man who keeps a collection of locks of hair of his lady friends, calls them his hair-breadth escapes.

There is no more sure sign of a shallow mind than the habit of seeing always the ludierous side of things; for the ludierous, as Aristotle remarks, is always on the surface.—

Blackie.

NOTES.

Some correspondence has been received since this number was sent to the press. It will appear in our next.

The conduct of a few students and their friends on the evening of Charter Day, is highly censurable. Their interruptions showed neither gallantry nor good breeding.

Prof-"Ah, going up my way?"

Lady-" How's 'at?

Prof-"Ah yes. Kin I go with you?" He went.

A matriculant went calling a few evenings since, but stayed too long. He was reminded that it was "nine o'clock, and time to get ready for bed."

They say that Jumbo has it bad.

The Semi-terminal examinations in the Grammar School are over. We had a peep at some of the papers, and they were rich. The following were given as examples of parts of speech:

Compound Noun -Hay-Stack.

" Adjective—Black-Ball.
" Pronoun—He-goat.

" Verb—Fish-hook.

A very pleasant evening was spent with Mr. W. C. Austin, before his departure for Toledo, Ohio. A supper was served in his honor in the Dining Hall, and the remainder of the evening was spent in the Steward's parlor. We regret very much to lose Mr. Austin just at this juncture, but it is pleasing to us to notice that where one of our men settles others are always welcome. There are now no less than four Albert College men in the employ of the same parties in Toledo, Ohio.

Our sanctum is away in the South East corner of the college building, on the third flat, where females did once inhabit. Not far from our door is the door leading to the ladies' corridor, which by the way is always firmly fastened with bars and bolts, but it has a large key-hole in it. One evening we looked out into the darkness, and spied a man of medium height, slim, with smooth face, moving aimlessly about the hall, close by this door. We recognized him to be a student, rooming on second flat. His actions were peculiar, and as he stopped directly in front of the door he aroused our suspicions. We are not addicted to eavesdropping, in

fact we never did eavesdrop, reporters never do, but this time the temptation was too strong, and we listened, but for fear you may think our motives for doing so were selfish we will te'll you all that we heard. This is it:

" Hello.

 Λ gentle response came from the opposite side of the door.

"Hello, is that you?"

"Yes, are you alone?"

"Yes, all alone, who is with you?"

"Nobody, I'm all alone. Did you answer my note?"

"Yes, here it is under the door, but you don't mean what you said, do you?"

"Yes, every word of it."

"Well, all right. Be sure and answer my letter by breakfast time."

"All right, I will. I wish I could get through this key-hole."

"You do? So do I, but hush-h-h."

Then all was quiet, and our man in the hall moved away. We are sure they slept easier that night.

We have received the following exchanges:— Queen's College Journal, 'Varsity, Presbyterian College Journal, Morrin College Review, Acta Victoriana, Rouge et Noir, Dalhousie Gazette, Indiana Student, University Gazette, Sunbeam, Delaware College Review, Argosy.

PERSONALS.

C. Lane. B.A., '79, is in Winnipeg.

J. W. Briggs, who attended Albert for some time, is now attending College in Evanston, Illinois.

A. R. Leonard, M.D., is in Napanee. He is a skilful Physician and very popular.

S. Oliver, a former student of Albert, is preaching in Croswell, Mich.

G. W. Andrews, B.A., '75, is the pastor of one of the best circuits in Western Ontario. We were pleased to receive a visit from him not long since.

P. M. White, B.A., '82, is in Dallas, Texas. We would be pleased to hear from him.

Geo. Morton, B.A., '81, is in the law office of Magone & Holbrook, Ogdensburg, N. Y.

I care not what a man's condition in life may have been ; if he has proved himself superior to that condition he is a hero — Henry Shaw.

One of the girls says: "Eating onions not only keeps the lips from chapping, but also keeps the chaps from lipping.— Ex.

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ATRAZORS HONED ON SHORT NOTICE. TO

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Take the opportunity offered by the issuing of the new College Journal, in connection with Albert College, Belleville, to tender thanks for the patronage which has been so liberally extended to them in the past. Always keeping in stock the largest and most varied collection of College Text Books in the Dominion, we continue to give special attentio 1 to all orders sent us, while we intend that at all times our prices shall be as low as the lowest.

Though we have many friends in connection with Albert College, yet we have room for many new ones, whose orders we cordially solicit, assuring them that they shall have no cause for regret.

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