

THE WHITE AND BLUE.

VOLUME I.]

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EPITAPH.

FOR THE REV. DR. BUCKLAND, THE OXFORD GEOLOGIST.

Monks' monuments, mourn o'er his funeral urn,
When ye must grace no more;
Cave of Slate! be settled your date,
And his name must now deplore.

Weep caverns, weep! with inferring drip,
Your recesses he'll cease to explore;
For mineral veins and organic remains
No stratum again will be bore.

Oh! his wit shone like crystal! his knowledge profound,
From Gravel to Granite descended;
No trap could deceive him, no slip could confound,
Nor specimen true or pretended.
He knew the birth-rock of each pebble so round,
And how far its tour had extended.

Where shall we our great Professor inter,
That in peace may rest his bones?
If we hew him a rocky sepulchre
He'll rise and break the stones,
And examine each stratum that lies around,
For he's quite in his element under ground.

If with mattock and spade his body we lay
In the common alluvial soil,
He'll start up and snatch those tools away
Of his own geological toil.
In a stratum so young the Professor disdains
That embedded should be his organic remains.

Then exposed to the drip of some case-hardning spring
His carcass let Stracittie cover,
And to Oxford the petrified Sage let us bring
When he is encrusted all over!
There 'mid the Mammoths and Croc adites high on a shaft
Let him stand as a monument raised to himself.

The White and Blue

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UNIVERSITY CONSOLIDATION.

The interest in this question does not abate; recent events point in its favor. Among these may be mentioned the adoption of the matriculation examination of the University of Toronto by Victoria university. True this has been dictated by self-interest rather than a desire to further the idea of consolidation. The Cobourg people noticed that at the high schools the majority of pupils were preparing for our matriculation, and that, consequently, the masters were giving more attention to it than to that of the other universities. Accordingly in their own interest they made their entrance examination to correspond with the one that prevails here. A high school master writing to the *Globe* recently urges the other universities to follow the example. Adopting the same subjects of examination, then, may be considered as one step toward consolidation. A next and more important step is to send all candidates to the same examiners. If the subjects are the same, why not at least matriculate before the same examiners? Some arrangement might be made whereby the examination for matriculation could be held at several points besides Toronto, say, for instance, at Ottawa, Kingston, Cobourg, Hamilton and London. A uniformity in matriculation is the first step toward consolidation. Let the other universities adopt the matriculation of Toronto as a matter of self-interest and they may then see their way clear to still further advances. It is by some gradual change such as this rather than by any sweeping measure that will do away with the present state of affairs. The denominational institutions must be brought to see that it is to their interest to come in.

Another noteworthy event is an article in the *Rouge et Noir* (Trinity College) on 'a national university.' The writer admits that such a thing is desirable, that six corporations in Ontario empowered to grant degrees is an unsatisfactory and confusing state of affairs, and that relief is to be sought in affiliation. He would have a central-board (the university) elected by the colleges conjointly to examine all candidates and grant degrees

J. J.

Two of Longfellow's daughters are pursuing the Harvard course of study for women.

TEMPORA MUTANTUR.

Rotten privilege and custom,
Coriolanus, Act I, Sc. 1.
 Get you gone!
Ibid, Act III, Sc. 1.

The practical man has always been recognised as an obstructive, an opponent of progress, in whose mouth are ever the anathemas of 'dreamer,' 'sentimentalist,' 'utopian.' And we may well forgive him, for he is an honest fellow, and an industrious. But there are several reasons why people take things for granted, however poorly evidenced, and venerate the established however obviously offensive. There are the want of time to find something better, laziness, and a morbid love for a certain amount of mystery, not reaching to terror. This last is a form of the only real paradox of the many that would-be-philosophic blues and half-starved fanatics like Pascal are so fond of charging humanity with. It is the same in-comprehensible pleasure in a little pain that we have in tearing off the incrustation that forms over a wound or pulling hairs out of the nostril. The satisfaction in these contradictions especially characterises the very young or very old, and where general, is the first sign that a nation is becoming effete. If anyone doubts the prevalence of this admiration of the mysterious let him go to the next spiritualistic or prestidigitator entertainment that favors Toronto, or notice how the lower classes in England regard a certain Hebrew conjurer.

In this country, as in all recently founded nationalities, there has been no time or no money for anything but hard work with the tools and materials we derived from more advanced civilizations. The reason we have not been active in reform is the first of these mentioned. As intimated, the last seems to be powerful in declining or stand-still communities. The other—laziness—always affects a large number of the population, who only change when a softer couch has been prepared for them.

We are now prepared to regard the recent article in the *Contemporary Review* on Freedom, by Prof. Max Muller, in its bearing upon ourselves. He sees very clearly the evidence of healthy and progressive society in variety of opinion, and while believing that J. S. Mill was mistaken in the cause, he still dreads a Chinese-mandarin uniformity from the influence of the past. Everything in England seems to point to such an event where, in politics at least, one party calls itself conservative and the other rates it for not being so. How is it with us? We have now got rich enough to take breath and think just a moment, and we are all for change. In Canada, both political parties call themselves liberal, and vie with each other in originating progressive measures. Again, Prof. Muller points to the universities and shows how inadequately they perform their most valuable functions—of encouraging free enquiry and breaking down the idols set up by early dogmatic teaching. Here again we are progressive. We have specialized our university course to a high degree and made subjects other than purely scholastic ones optional with candidates for degrees. Before our literary society questions are debated that men can really take an interest in. We have already heard something—too little, alas!—on a vital problem in political economy. In a week we shall discuss the subject that more than

any other is engrossing the attention of all mankind—future punishment and its influence as a belief on morality. But the most powerful influence is to be exerted by our curriculum, not only as to the subject-matter of examinations, but the manner of holding them. There can be no doubt, as Prof. Muller points out, that examinations on text-books have a terribly levelling effect. Of course we learn what the book says. If we understand it, so much the easier for us; but the examiner neither knows or cares. How are we to avoid this? Abolish examinations? Yes, some; let there be two university examinations—one for entrance, the other for a degree. Meantime let the college examinations be held yearly: let the professors be the examiners and let them follow the example of one, who, to his honor be it said, had the sense and courage to declare on a paper: 'Intelligent originality will be appreciated.'

Finally, as to the actual course. Here the senate of the university has shown itself progressive, and on the right path. The most prominent features in the curriculum of 1877 are raising the standard of entrance, and differentiation of the subsequent course. This is true evolution, as Herbert Spencer defines it, 'a change from an indefinite incoherent homogeneity.' This is the condition of the passman, and always will be; chaos that mistakes itself for omniscience. The honor courses are being reformed more and more in each successive curriculum from such a state. A specialization ensues that has all the arguments at its back that commend the division of labour, plus the inestimable benefits of permitting students to pursue subjects in which they take an interest—to utilize their hobbies; as a consequence of securing their attention and actually inspiring them with a love of knowledge; and, above all, of giving them an opportunity of forming independent opinions, in marked contrast with the necessarily derived and indistinct views of the dabbler. A senate so liberal and so wise in the past is not likely to become suddenly blind to the signs of the times. In a few years they will again perceive the necessity of a farther jaunt in the same direction. The enormous educational activity of the province is too manifest to escape their notice; and they will take advantage of it, and do away with junior matriculation and the first year, making the present senior matriculation examination necessary for entrance, with the addition perhaps of a Greek play and inorganic chemistry. Then those who intend to be professional scholars of languages and to teach them, can pursue those courses untrammelled. Those who have other aims can well afford to let them have two scholarships to one in the other departments. They will retain, with some additions perhaps, the present work in the second year, and largely in the third, in the scientific courses (mathematical, natural, mental, moral and political science), and in the last year live wholly in the region of free investigation, whether by experiment or wide reading, with a view to having their originality tested. In mathematics there is plenty of choice—astronomy, light, kinetics, etc. In what we now call loosely 'metaphysics,' there might come the much-mooted differentiation of the course in political economy, constitutional history and the foundation of jurisprudence. But natural

science is the department that calls already most loudly for reform. The students in this course which should be most free from dogma and most valuable in iconoclasm, feel themselves most incompetent to do more for at present than stick to the text books, to 'make full marks,' as a recent well-known gra luate used to express it; and they most keenly perceive to how little real knowledge or real mental training full marks testify. Now, were it compulsory for a student at some time during his career to take a course in inductive logic, and to devote himself to chemistry or natural history, or geology and assaying, in his fourth year, he might know more of science and know it better; he could study and appreciate the important theories discussed, and form intelligent opinions regarding them, and reach a point at which the university, in presenting his degree might confidently say:

"Ne te quæsieris extra."

THE MUSEUM OWL.

THE PASS COURSE.

It is hardly necessary to say to the students of University College that the pass course is thought by some to be a somewhat despised mode of graduation; and unless one is an 'honor man' he does not mean much in the students' class list. This, it appears to me, is a great mistake.

There are four real professions into which our graduates can betake themselves—law, theology, medicine, and general teaching. Now, to one who intends to teach a special sort of work an honor course is well suited. Is this true of the other three professions? I think not. William Pitt used to define an educated man as 'one who knew a little about everything and everything about something.' If, then, a graduate enters either of the three regular professions he can have ample opportunities of getting his full measurement taken; and attaining to the highest position as a specialist.

The real object of an art's course is to impart a general and useful store of learning and a sound mental training. The former can be best secured by a variety of studies; the latter, from any subject carefully and accurately prepared. Thus the pass course by no means appears in so unfavourable a light as on a hasty view it might.

There is something in a name, however, and few like to be called 'pass men,' as that rather reflects on their abilities in a manner not agreeable to youthful ambition. Might it not be well for the Senate to take the sixth graduating department under their protection and favour; and make the amount of work as nearly as possible equal to an honor department, with the same percentage. After having done this, attach to it scholarships and medals to be awarded to those taking highest average stand, and change the name from 'the pass' to 'the general proficiency course.'

Were this done, I feel sure that it would be the popular department. Many would enter it because its varied nature would render it more congenial to their tastes than an exclusive course, feeling at the same time their industry should meet with a suitable reward. A reform in this direction is needed, and the feeling is certainly growing that it should be granted. I do not say that the present pass course should be chosen; but suitable modification of it could easily be drafted. F.

A THREE-YEAR ARTS COURSE.

While I fully agree with the article which appeared under this title in the WHITE AND BLUE of the 17th inst., I think there is still a question which merits consideration. It has been my opinion ever since I entered college that the work of the first year belonged more properly to high schools than to a university. I believe, further, that if this work were performed by them a three-year university course would be more advantageous than a four-year course under the present curriculum. But this latter change does not compel the reduction of the course to three years, and it remains to be decided whether a three-year course would be more beneficial than one of four years under a new arrangement. There are various points from which this might be viewed, but I think that from all of them the decision will be in favor of the longer course.

In the first place, the work at present on the curriculum for the second, third and fourth years is much too heavy, and could be spread over four years, still giving more to each than the student of average ability could accomplish. The object of college training, as understood by our Senate, seems to be just the opposite of that advanced in your last issue, for the students are compelled to devote themselves entirely to the cramming of facts. Of course they may neglect these, and devote part of their time to reflection, but who will do this when he knows that it is not the best thinker; but the one with the best knowledge of the facts contained in his work, who will stand at the head of the class list. This is a point wherein examinations nearly always fail—few examiners having the requisite skill in asking questions. The examinations being of this nature, the present amount of work is perhaps necessary to afford a fair trial to those competing for medals and scholarships. That excess of work is an evil and injurious to our mental training few will deny; should this evil then be continued for the accommodation of a system the benefits of which have always been considered doubtful?

This reduction of the work would also allow the students time to enjoy the advantages for general study which the library and museums afford; from which, as the University possesses no fellowships, nearly all the students after graduating are practically excluded.

I cannot say, however, that I have any expectation of a change which proposes a reduction in the amount of our work meeting with approval in the Senate since all the late changes made by it are in an opposite direction. For this reason I would suggest another way in which benefit could be derived by the transfer of the first year work to the high schools. Let the degree of B.A. be conferred at the end of the third year, and a post-graduate course of one year be added for the degree of M.A. This would give a real value to this degree which it has not at present, but could not now be done without increasing the staff of professors. The change proposed would entirely remove this difficulty, and leave our professors time to undertake the work.

T.

BARBAROUS.

Friend * * * Between ourselves, Socrates, he (Alcibiades) is a man, and is now getting a pretty thick beard.
Socrates—But what of that? Do you not approve of Homer, who says that the most graceful age is that of a youth with his first beard? *Protag.*, of Plato.

Without entering into the merits of the discussion in the above quotation, we hasten to announce to any of our readers who contemplate building that the corner which existed in hair for plastering purposes has been broken. Anticipating a demand for brick in the construction of the new parliament buildings a real 'hum' pervades the brickyards of Yorkville and Leslieville; but by a well known principle of political economy which governs the production of such an article no great increase in price follows an increased demand. In the matter of plasterers' hair, however, it is different. It takes time to increase the supply of hides from which the hair is generally got. Consequently, on the announcement of the intention of Mr. Mowat to erect new parliament buildings, and in prospect of a large general demand for hair, its price suddenly rose, and a few wealthy dealers by vigorous action secured the control of the market and created a corner in the trade. Things were getting desperate; the country was looking for deliverance from monopoly. Nor did the people look in vain. For as the Roman matrons are reported to have taken off their jewels and ornaments and thrown them in the public treasury in the hour of the city's trial, even so a noble band of Canadian youth have stepped into the breach and offered up on the razors of their fathers their 'first beard,' that which in the eyes of Socrates made them 'most graceful.'

The resident students held a meeting last Saturday night to discuss the situation. They realized the dire calamity that hung over the building trade. The suggestion that a 'clean shave' all round would ease the market was no sooner made than it was acted upon. For the next hour no other sound could be heard about the Residence, so great was the din of rasping grindstones and the song of the razor and the strop. Lather was consumed in tubfuls. But the hair famine was averted. Throughout Sunday the hair was permitted to lie about the Residence, but on Monday the builders and plasterers were busy carting it away. There was such a plenty of it that the buyers refused to take any hair that was less than three-eighths of an inch in length. As a consequence the down taken from the face of the freshmen was carried out to the 'quads' and set fire to. When the students assembled in the dining-room the next morning the sight of the smooth-faced youth astonished no one so much as themselves. They who but the day before were heavy-bearded had great blue patches on their faces, while those who had been used to twirl their luxuriant moustaches when waiting to be served had to content themselves with running their fingers over the denuded localities. The odd appearance of the smooth-faced in the lecture rooms on Monday and succeeding days was much commented on by the outsiders. At first they could not understand what was the matter. However, as the week rolled on the sprouts began to appear, and the faces of the band began to assume a stabled aspect. But it will be some time before the memory of the 'clean-shave' of the Residence will be forgotten.

HEAD MASTERS OF HIGH SCHOOLS.

From the report of the Minister of Education we learn that in Ontario there are 104 High Schools. The head masters of these are thus distributed among the universities:—

Toronto	39
Victoria	23
Queen's	10
Trinity	6
McGill	4
Trinity (Dublin)	5
Albert	1
Aberdeen	3
Others	13

It is to be hoped that in the next report the universities of the under-masters will also be given

A GYMNASIUM FUND.

Cannot something be done to fit up the gymnasium? As it appears that the Council can do nothing, I think the undergraduates should put their shoulders to the wheel and raise the money. The sum needed is \$300 or \$350, and if nearly five hundred undergraduates, together with the alumni residents in the city, cannot raise this sum, it shows that an energetic spirit is sadly wanting in this University. But I do not think such is the fact, for as an experiment I asked several of the students and ex-students what they would subscribe towards this fund, and got fifteen names with sums ranging from five to two dollars attached without difficulty. Let the Secretary then call another meeting, as only by agitating the matter can any thing be done.

B.

The glee club might see their way to giving a concert in aid of the gymnasium fund. I read that the Yale glee club has been very successful in this direction.

THIRD YEAR.

THE COLLEGE WORLD.

The glee club of the American college go into singing with a zest. We notice that the clubs of Harvard and Yale are both to appear in New York to give concerts, while some other colleges are down for a week's starting throughout the states. The music used is for the most part of a light nature, and college choruses appear to take best. We must have a chorus here to keep abreast of our cousins, so wake up, ye musicians, and compete for the Society's prize of five dollars for a college song!

ONLY 75 of the 200 freshmen of Yale passed their entrance examination without conditions.

THE freshmen at Williams have a brass band. DARTMOUTH is to have a law department.

ELDERLY gentleman to a freshman on the train: 'You don't have no ticket.' 'No, I travel on my good looks.' 'Them,' after looking him over, 'probably you ain't got 'em yet.'

THE founder's festival at McGill College on the 23rd inst. proved very successful. It was of the nature of a *conversazione*. A feature of the musical programme was several choruses by the students.

McGILL university and the university of Halifax grant degrees in science.

A motion is before the University of Halifax to throw open all its examinations to women. The *Dalhousie Gazette* (Halifax) favors the co-education of the sexes, and says the coming in of women will repress any tendency to rowdism among the boys.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Those who have not yet paid their subscription to the WHITE AND BLUE will oblige by doing so as early as possible. The money may be remitted to the business manager, or handed in to any member of the staff.

EARLIER TERMS.

It has long been evident from the repeated petitions to the College Council, in reference to the Michaelmas Examinations, that the undergraduates desire some change in the regulations affecting them. This change, never formally demanded, would probably abolish the Xmas examinations altogether, if made in a measure to fully satisfy the students; but they, with a keen sense, both of the augustness and conservatism of the Council, have never framed a petition to effect that purpose. However, individuals, and at times, whole classes have been exempted from attendance at these examinations, and in all cases the absolving plea has been the same—that, so short is the Michaelmas term, there has not been time to prepare the work.

Now, a remedy could be applied to invalidate this recurring statement, if the Council were to lengthen the Michaelmas term by a month. The change would of course shorten the Easter term by the same time, and would prove beneficial in many ways. A month's grace would be allowed those who take charge of our sports, to do justice to our college and to themselves; a month's additional time would be given those whose minds are somewhat distracted at the opening of the session, to compose themselves to work; and the ambitious freshman would have *four weeks more* to overtake the year's work before Christmas (the freshmen will appreciate our attempts at legislation on their behalf). But would not the increase in the length of the term involve an increase in the extent of reading to be done? Certainly, but the reason so many are behind with their work at Xmas, is, that they lose time at the opening of term; and the longer the term is made, the longer such will have to overtake the work.

But the change recommended would be welcome and salutary for other reasons. September is not, particularly pleasing as a holiday month, and many of our students spend it in study; while May, when we are expected to come, with our hearts in our mouths, to the examination hall, would be, rationally spent, if, enjoying *la belle saison*, we could therein await the results of the examining ordeal passed through in the preceding month. Every one knows how strong the temptation is to shirk an examination on a day which promises every enjoyment outside, while in the hall, one can expect only sweltering misery. May is a series of such days; April has none of them, for anyone would prefer a plucking from an examiner to a dressing of April mud.

Then, too, our college pastimes would be better patronized, and while we are far from wishing to see our college, like some nameless ones, a mere training-school for athletes, we think that a little

more attention to athletics would benefit many of our students. We should all guard against being such intellectual gluttons, as altogether to shun manly exercises, while acquiring knowledge.

The College Council has ignored our petition for aid to furnish a gymnasium, and our year's exercise must be taken during the Michaelmas term in the popular game—foot-ball. If the change we are advocating were made, our foot-ball team would have ample time to fit itself to carry off the highest honors; and one more month would be given the students to fortify themselves for the winter's work, as foot-ball seems doomed to have a monopoly of our patronage as an exercise; and, again, the winter term would last a month less and there would consequently be less chance of any of our men breaking down. But so many are the advantages which this change would secure our students, that space would not permit their enumeration, and we only express the hope that the College Council will wisely consider, and adopt our suggestion. The reform, while it will be welcomed by the students as the granting of a much desired boon, will at the same time conserve the regulations of the College, and will make its life more beneficial to us physically, socially, and intellectually.

LIEUT. MANLEY was drilling company K. last night. The attendance might have been better.

F. F. MANLEY, M.A., has been promoted to the first lieutenancy of the University Company of the Queen's Own.

J. C. F. BOWN, B.A., Brantford, visited the College on Thursday. He was down passing his intermediate examination in law.

The annual dinner of K Company (University rifles), will be held at the National Club next Friday evening. The uniform to be worn.

ALEX. SHIELDS, B.A., '79, has been teaching since September last modern languages in Mount Forest high school. He, too, was recently married.

W. G. WALLACE, B.A., '79, is at the head of Beamsville high school. His department is classics. When an undergraduate he taught in the same school.

THERE will be a meeting in room 4, College residence, on Monday, at four o'clock, to consider the advisability of organizing a Rowing Club, in connection with this college.

IN the card of thanks addressed to the contributors to the company prizes for their annual rifle match, the name of Rev. Professor Young was inadvertently omitted. The Secretary desires to make amend for the omission of one of the most liberal contributors to our prize fund.

PROFESSOR KINGSTON, director of the Toronto Observatory, and superintendent of the Meteorological Department, has been superannuated, and will be succeeded by Mr. Carpmal, at present his deputy. Mr. Carpmal is a distinguished graduate of Cambridge, and one of the examiners in mathematics of this University.

THE air in some of our over-crowded lecture rooms recalls the story of the professor who was in the habit of remarking, when a change in classes took place in his room: "Mr. Jones, will you please open the window and let the remains of the senior class out of the room?" There was a scientific truth in this witticism.

AT the business meeting of the Y. M. C. A. held on Saturday last Mr. Geo. Inglis was elected to fill the office of secretary-treasurer vacated by the resignation of Mr. D. Hague who remains at home the first two or three months of this term. The absence of Mr. Hague is much regretted by the association, as he was one of its most active members.

THE GLEE CLUB promises to do exceedingly well, and to be very popular this year. At the regular practice on Monday last, some additions were made to the roll, and it is now expected that there will be about twenty-five active members. The four parts are well balanced with the exception of the first tenor, which is yet weak; and any gentleman who has a high voice, will confer a benefit on the club by joining next Monday. None need be intimidated from joining on account of the fee, which will be very small. The club will practice some choruses for the Company dinner at their next meeting, and will throughout the winter appear at the concerts mentioned below.

A SERIES of organ recitals by Mr. Fisher, the talented organist of St. Andrew's church, will be given in Convocation Hall this term, commencing on Saturday, February 13th. The College Council has generously granted the use of the hall for the purpose, and a fine Warren organ will be set up on the dais at once. It is Mr. Fisher's intention to give four recitals, on alternate Saturday afternoons, and the literary society will assume charge of the entertainment and will issue invitations. In the absence of conversatione these concerts will prove a means, which we are sure will be welcome to the students, for their entertaining and returning to some degree the kindness of their Toronto friends.

THE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

At the regular meeting last night (the president in the chair) the house committee reported a set of rules to govern the reading room, and in favor of letting out the back numbers of the magazines to members. Both reports were adopted. A clause in the latter report, that a fee of fifty cents be charged for the privilege of taking out the magazines as recommended, was struck out. Any member of the society can now take out for a week any of the back numbers of the magazines by applying to the member in charge between three and four. The managing committee of the college journal also reported that the WHITE AND BLUE would be in a position to pay its way. The open debate was adjourned for two weeks, after a hard fight on the part of a great number who were anxious to see it come off, even at the late hour at which it was called. A committee—Messrs. Ballantyne, Shortt, Laidlaw, McDougall and H. B. Wright—was appointed to conduct the arrangements in connection with the coming organ recitals.

The next public meeting will take place on the 20th February. The speakers (all undergraduates) are Messrs. Jackson, Gilmore, Ballantyne, and Davis; the reader, T. E. Inglis; essayist, D. B. Kerr.

COLLEGE ITEMS.

GLEE CLUB practice on Monday at five.

DR. ELLIS has resumed his duties in the laboratory at the School of Practical Science.

WEATHER permitting there will be football (association rules) practice this afternoon.

A COMMITTEE is likely soon to be appointed to revise the constitution of the Society.

MR. J. A. JAFFRAY, of the third year, is teaching mathematics in Weston high school.

J. M. HUNTER, B.A., '79, modern language master in Barrie high school, was married recently.

IN the Ontario Estimates for 1880, is an item of \$4,359, for the School of Practical Science building.