

THE MCGILL GAZETTE.

VOL. V.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, 1878.

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CONTENTS.

EDITORIAL.....	25	VICE-REGAL VISIT.....	32
CREMATION.....	29	CORRESPONDENCE.....	33
PRINTED LECTURES.....	29	CLIPPINGS.....	34
UNIVERSITY CONSOLIDATION.....	30	FRESHMEN.....	35
LORNE AND LOUISE.....	31	ITEMS.....	35

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THE MCGILL GAZETTE.

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1878.

EDITORIAL.

Si Quid Novisti Rectius Istis Candidus Imperti.

THAT mankind has not yet arrived at perfection, is one of those axioms which are extremely commonplace as well as suggestive of serious considerations. One is apt, in pondering over the assertion that human affairs and mundane institutions admit of improvement and beneficial change, to regard the common surroundings of every day life with the view of their amelioration. What is true of things and persons in general, may be postulated of even university dignitaries and affairs, which have not reached; and are not likely to attain to, that approximate perfection which is the chief end of man to secure. We are not called upon to seek out the vices of human institutions, nor is it our place to suggest remedies for public disorders; but we may, fittingly enough, when we can, point out any defect which exists in the working or government of our University, or in the conduct of its operations. As a college organ we would not be doing our duty, were we to affect that *insouciance* in reference to these matters which most college men display. The mere fact of our being a journal, would seem to assimilate our functions to those of the press in general, and to give us the right to point out abuses—more or less grave; and if we can to indicate some method for their rectification. But without further moralizing of this nature, and without any further attempt to justify the propriety of that which we are about to say, let us come at once to the subject to which we desire to advert. Many of our readers may be unaware of the fact that an important difference exists between the method of con-

ducting examinations in the several faculties of the college. In Law and Medicine what may be termed the anonymous system is in vogue. That is to say, the name of the candidate is not revealed to the examiner until after the papers have been looked over, the values attached to the different answers, and the standing of the student definitely settled. A number, or motto, is given to each competitor who inscribes it on the examination paper, and also on an envelope in which is enclosed his name written on a card, which envelope is sealed and not opened till the standing is finally decided on. In the Faculty of Arts, on the other hand, the professor knows at a glance the name of the man whose papers he is examining, for it is written openly on each sheet. Now, in suggesting to the members of the Faculty of Arts the desirability of the substitution of the anonymous system, as explained above, for the mode presently followed, we do not wish to be understood as insinuating that glaring instances of impartiality or unfairness occur with any frequency. Nor can we see that such an alteration, if adopted by the Faculty, would be an admission on their part that there is even a likelihood of the display of so reprehensible a spirit of favouritism or the reverse. But placing the two systems side by side, one cannot help admitting that there is much greater fairness, in one method than in the other; and granting this superiority, no reasonable objection to the proposed change, can, we imagine, be urged. All men are human, and humanity is pretty much the same thing the world over. College professors, calm and philosophic though they be, cannot help, in the very nature of things, entertaining likes and dislikes, and to reduce the consequences of these feelings,—which must be, and are, occasionally displayed—to a *minimum* should be the aim of every lover of perfect impartiality. It would be needless to enumerate cases where an undue partiality

might work injustice, but such a conjuncture as the following might arise: A professor is examining a paper—and here we would interpose that in examinations the papers should be taken exactly as they are; nothing should be either added or taken away by the examiner—a fatal omission occurs in an answer; it might be a *lapsus penne*, or it might be the result of ignorance. It is very evident that an examiner, be he never so impartially inclined, would be apt to look and ascertain whose paper he was examining, and he might, and, in all probability, would form his knowledge of the abilities and status of the student, either supply the omission, or reject the answer altogether. This is natural, but it is not just. However, there is no need of adducing examples. The existence of the evil is self-evident, and we feel convinced that the members of the Arts Faculty can come to no other conclusion than that one system is much fairer and more equitable than the other, and having determined this, the adoption of the better and juster method should follow as a matter of course.

Now that the Christmas examinations have commenced, there is one improvement that appears to us might be made, with reference to the mode of entrance to the Examination Hall. It has been for years a source of great inconvenience to Arts and Science students, after they have put on their trenchers and gowns, to have to go out in very often exceedingly disagreeable weather in going to the Molson Hall, while the most obvious and convenient way is barred. Of course this way is that from the door opposite the reading-room, taking the passage past the museum, and finally out into the entrance of the Molson Hall, whence they have but to climb the stairs and they are safely landed in the "dreadful room." As was before stated, if this boon were granted it would be a matter of great convenience for the students, and would supply a want uni-

versally felt amongst the Arts and Science men.

WE notice that several examination papers have been cut from the calendars in the library. We cannot allow this exceedingly selfish and ungentlemanly piece of conduct to pass unnoticed, and if, by our reference to it, we shall have been able to stop it, the end in view, while penning this, will be attained. The persons who are guilty of this misdemeanor, we are convinced, would not have resorted to it, had they reflected for a moment before doing so. That the library, and these books among others, are for the benefit of the students, a fact which the greater frequenting of the former, and the increasing use of the latter, clearly indicate, even the most careless about the University's progress cannot deny. Every student should, and nearly every one does, take pride and interest in the library. When strangers visit the University it is one of the most prominent features of interest about it we can show them and feel convinced they will admire. It might naturally be thought that even that principle of nature which teaches a man to cherish what is his own would prevent the books from being defaced; but since it has been otherwise in the past, it is hoped we will not be again called upon to notice anything of this sort in future.

THE graduating classes should bear in mind that one of the most important duties which they have to perform is the election of the Valedictorian. This appointment should be made as soon as possible after the Christmas holidays, in order that those who are selected may have their addresses composed before the work of final examinations comes on. That the Valedictorian should be a good speaker and a fluent writer is a self-evident proposition. It is no less apparent that the office should be filled by a student who is a

student, in the sense that he has mixed with his class-mates as well socially as in the classroom. We too often have mere book-worms elected, and the consequences are that they are in no way representative of their fellows, and unfitted to give proper expression to the feelings—the traditional “mingled feelings”—of the class on graduation day. The medical students have in the past been far ahead of either the law students or those in arts in the conception and delivery of their valedictory addresses.—why, we do not know. We trust, however, that the graduating classes will ponder over our suggestions, and be careful in their choice.

IN another column appears an account of the part taken by the undergraduates of McGill in the demonstrations in honour of the distinguished visitors to Montreal. The programme was well arranged and well carried out, and we feel sure that we only express the general opinion when we thank the Committee for their capital management of the affair. To them we owe it, that the students have been brought more closely together than they have been for some time, and we are sure that we have now heard the last of any dissensions between the Faculties. Medicine, Law, Arts and Science, all worked in perfect harmony and with good effect. A feeling of *esprit de corps*—this expression may not be new to some of our readers—was strikingly manifested, and we heard many students emphatically remark that a grand re-union of all the undergraduates at dinner after Christmas was all that was wanted to heal old sores—existing without cause—and to knit together elements in the University which should never have been kept asunder. We are thoroughly in accord with this opinion, and we would call upon the Committee, which did the work so admirably on this occasion, to see to it that the idea is carried into practical effect.

THE extreme readiness with which certain journals publish any scurrilous attack upon students, has been often noticed, in days gone by, in these columns. A few years ago, one would have judged from the remarks which from time to time appeared in the press, that the students of McGill were more like Bashi Bashouks and wild Indians, than civilized young men. Latterly, however, there has been a scarcity of these attacks in the Montreal press, and we have had little or no cause for complaint on this score. However, just as we were congratulating ourselves upon the orderly manner in which our demonstrations in honour of the Queen's representative had been conducted, we were rudely shocked by a very coarse and malignant half column of unmerited abuse which appeared in the Montreal *Daily Witness*. This was in the form of a communication signed “One who loves a joke,” and purported to be written by “a public school-boy in England, subsequently a cadet on board the training ship ‘Britannia,’ the old craft on board which the Prince of Wales' two boys are now receiving their education, and afterwards an officer of a gun-room mess in a line of battle ship.” From the general tenor of the letter, we should rather say that this party's nautical experience had been gained in the fore-castle of a Spanish pirate. After detailing several pieces of skylarking practised on shipboard, all of which were gentlemanly, the writer terms our procession on the evening of the illumination “a disgraceful crowd”; our conduct was “caddism in the highest degree.” “Billingsgate roughs of the lowest description would not be guilty of such rowdyism.” This is tolerably strong language, and if the insinuations were true, should undoubtedly cause every McGill student to blush with shame, and to cry *peccavi*. Fortunately, however, every one who took part in the procession knows that this letter is a tissue of untruths from beginning to end. Not only this, the testimony of many of Montreal's most respect-

table citizens could be adduced to prove that our conduct was in every respect becoming and decorous. We will not, however, bandy words with a scribbler who is afraid to put his name to his libellous effusion, we will, though, take exception to the publication of such a diatribe by our city contemporary. By every rule of common decency and in accordance with the best understood principles of journalistic propriety, the *Montreal Daily Witness* should have discovered whether the allegations of its correspondent were well founded before printing his communication, before giving currency to very base insinuations upon the respectability of a body of respectable men. The letter of "One who loves a joke" we have already characterized as thoroughly false and malicious; the action of our contemporary was certainly unfair and improper. The matter is now under discussion in the newspapers, so we will not further refer to it now, but we feel sure that the defenders of the students, conscious of their entire blamelessness on the premises, will have little difficulty in proving the untruthful correspondent of the *Witness* guilty of giving expression to a false and malicious libel.

THE Science students have lately formed themselves into a society, with the object of promoting among themselves a spirit of unity and harmony. In taking this step they have shown a commendable desire to see their own faculty in no way behind the other faculties of our University in fostering unity of feeling among its members, and in enabling them by meeting together at stated times and discussing subjects of interest to all, to cultivate a more intimate acquaintance with one another than that afforded by meeting at the lectures. The officers are: a president, a vice-president, and a secretary-treasurer, elected from the students without regard to the distinction of

different years; and the meetings are held fortnightly.

In the beginning of the session of 1875-76, the Science students formed themselves into a society, under the title of the "McGill Association of Engineers," to include among its members graduates as well as students of the Science Department. It was well provided with officers, having an honorary president chosen from the graduates, a president, a first vice-president, a second vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer. The dignity and formality of its meetings were upheld by a constitution and code of by-laws. For a while everything worked pleasantly; the meetings were well attended, several good addresses were delivered by the different officers and others, a few interesting communications were received from distant graduates, and the condition of the finances was all that could be desired. But this agreeable state of affairs was not destined to last long, and towards the close of its first session of existence, a gloomy aspect had already settled over the society. The meetings, though pretty well attended on the part of the students, were frequently without interest and lifeless; the graduates living in the city at that time were few in number, and, with one or two exceptions, did not show any particular interest in the success of the society, beyond attending some of the first meetings, and its existence may be said to have terminated with the close of the year. In the next session an attempt at its resuscitation was made only to prove futile, and since then no one has disturbed its shades, but all have quietly allowed its remembrance to fade away.

We venture to predict a happier career to this new society, which, coming into existence as it does, with the first session of our new Faculty of Applied Science, it may not be over-sanguine to hope, will meet increased success with the growth of this new faculty that is certain to take place under its present able management.

CREMATION.

BY A BURNING ADMIRER OF SIR HENRY THOMPSON.

To Urn or not to Urn? that is the question:
 Whether 'tis nobler for our frames to suffer
 The shows and follies of outrageous custom,
 Or to take fire—against a sea of zealots—
 And by consuming, end them? To urn—to keep—
 No more: and while we keep to say we end
 Contagion and the thousand graveyard ills
 That flesh is heir to—'tis a consume—ation
 Devoutly to be wished! To burn—to keep—
 To keep! Perchance to lose—aye, there's the rub:
 For in the course of things what duns may come,
 Or who may shuffle off our Dresden Urn,
 Must give us pause. There's the respect
 That makes inter-i-ment of so long use.
 For who would have the pail and plumes of hire,
 The tradesman's prize—a proud man's obsequies,
 When he himself might his few ashes make
 With a mere furnace? Who would tombstones bear,
 And lie beneath a lying epitaph,
 But that the dread of simmering after death—
 That uncongenial furnace from whose burn
 No incremate returns—weakens the will,
 And makes us rather bear the graves we have
 Than fly to ovens that we know not of?
 This, Thompson, does make cowards of us all.
 And thus the wisdom of incineration
 Is thick laid o'er with the pale ghost of nought,
 And incremators of great pith and courage
 With this regard their faces turn away,
 And shudder at Cremation.

WM. SAWYER.

—000—

PRINTED LECTURES.

The students of Medicine in McGill are at present agitating the question of University education, or that particular part of it which has special reference to themselves. It has long been the boast of our old landmarks of learning that they are *semper eadem*, as unchangeable as the northern star, and if they do not say so in express terms, they imply as much, believing, no doubt, that actions in many instances are more eloquent than words. In the olden time, before Guttenberg's art had been given to the world, a few great men were the sole repositories of all the learning of an age, and as the means of communicating their knowledge was, as a matter of course, very limited, students flocked to their schools to receive

from these men the burning words that fell from their lips. When our old English and Continental Universities were founded, such was the condition of things, and the system which was absolutely necessary in those days has, to a certain extent, been handed down to us.

We can see no anomaly in the fact of a *savant* of the 10th century reading or reciting to his class words from a manuscript which had perhaps been the production of years of patient toil and deep research. The circumstances of the age rendered this imperatively necessary, for, as we said before, printing had not yet been invented, and as a consequence books, such as we understand by that name now-a-days, had no existence whatever. The students of the middle ages were quite content to listen to the instructions of some great master, and to note what he said for future reference, as it could be found nowhere else. These were the halcyon days of note-taking. The quill alone was the instrument which was capable of giving knowledge to the world, and as such it was duly honoured by the student and philosopher. Then came the art which has done so much for the human race; the art which completely revolutionized the pre-existing order of things, and gave a literal as well as a metaphorical meaning to the expression "winged words," which now flow far and wide to the remotest corners of the globe, bearing with them truth and knowledge in their train.

Printing has done much for mankind in general, but for students during their university career scarcely anything at all. This statement may sound rather absurd, but nevertheless it is a startling truth, and all university students in Canada, and especially medical students, know it to be the case. We think a little explanation will make this clear. As this article is written more especially to show some of the weak points in the system of medical teaching, we will take that Faculty as an example. With the single exception of anatomy all the lectures are transcribed in 'o the note books of the students. Anatomy is somewhat like mathematics—anything that can be said on the subject is so exact that all the works treating on it are alike, and contain the same facts, so that a professor of that department of medicine can say nothing new which is not contained in some ordinary work on the subject; but with the other divisions of the healing art it is quite otherwise.

In them the professors are wont to collect their information from an almost infinity of authorities, so that their lectures resemble nothing more closely than Jacob's coat of many colours. We do not say this disparagingly, for it is just as legitimate in a professor of the practice of medicine or surgery to consult his sources of information as a teacher of English literature to refer to his. It is not that to which we refer, but to the custom of reading this collection of matter to their classes, and expect them to be able to follow them through all the figures of rhetoric for half a dozen hours daily, or, in default thereof, expose them to all the terrors of failure on examination day. It is not easy for an exhausted student to follow a professor, going at a breakneck pace, in everything he says, and yet such a thing he is expected to do.

We hold that some better means is available for imparting instruction than this. Surely it should not be necessary for us in the latter part of what is called, with much exultation, the 19th century, to break our health and spirits doing something which is not required. If, instead of asking students to write their lectures, the Faculty would publish them in some convenient form, and give them to the students for perusal; this might be an innovation. It might not tally very well with the boast of *semper eadem*, which we spoke of a little while ago, but it would be an infinitely better plan than the homicidal system of the present day. The students have sent the Faculty of Medicine a petition asking the different professors to consent to have their notes published, and could thus obviate all the drudgery and unsatisfactory results of the system now in vogue. It is to be hoped that the professors may entertain the proposition which has been placed before them, for we are convinced that by putting their valuable notes into the form of a book or a pamphlet, they would be relieving the already overworked students of a piece of unnecessary labour, and would be doing much to facilitate the perfect acquisition of knowledge, which is so necessary in the medical man.

The present way of doing things is little better than it would be to have an Act of Parliament passed compelling the people of Canada to pay their railway fares, and then after that to trudge to their destination on foot through all the inclement seasons of the year,

while the idle locomotive whistled by those unfortunate wretches, who were detained in consequence of sentiment from availing themselves of the empty coaches bringing up the rear of the steam-engine. Reforms are usually slow, but we hope the University of McGill will do something in the matter under discussion for the amelioration of a crying evil.

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UNIVERSITY CONSOLIDATION.

The subject which came up for debate, and which was, we think, treated with deserved ability at the meeting of the University Literary Society, held on the evening of Friday, the 22nd Nov., is one which certainly deserves the attentive consideration of all those who have the true educational interests of our country at heart. It is a question which has largely occupied the attention of university men for some time, and one which has just claims upon their consideration, inasmuch as their interests are directly involved in the matter, and we earnestly hope that the day is now not far distant when it may receive even a greater share of this attention, and be solved so as to result in an improved state of things. For our own part we must confess that our sympathies are with those who sustained the affirmative side of the question during the debate, and whose advocacy was rewarded by a large majority in their favour at its close, since we believe that any step towards the consolidation and centralization either of the Universities themselves or their examining bodies, is one in a right direction, and one which should be welcomed as such by all the true friends of education.

We take it for granted that those who oppose us as to the means, are yet of one mind with us in our earnest desire that the benefits of university culture should be much more widely extended than at present; that not only those who are designed for the learned professions, but also those who intend devoting themselves to the different branches of Canadian industry, should have this training, and should possess to as great a degree as possible that breadth of mind which we, as university men, are prone to consider, as a general rule, culture alone can give; for it is evident that in the coming years the Industrial Society of

this "Canada of ours" will present grave and important questions for solution, and how necessary will it be in such a case that those who hold leading places in this Society should be men possessing the advantages of higher education! So much being granted, we have next to consider whether it is advisable that the *status quo* of the different Canadian universities should continue, or whether it would not be preferable in the interests of higher education, as well as of additional profit to college men generally, that these different teaching and degree-conferring societies should consign the latter privilege to one or two central institutions, which should hold the same relation to them as time honoured Oxford and Cambridge hold towards their respective colleges. It is our opinion that such a change would be very beneficial to all concerned, and that numberless benefits would accrue, both to those educated under such a system, and to the institutions so federated and consequently strengthened. In addition to increased revenues, there would also be an increase of university *prestige*, the want of which is very much felt at times by the average graduate, and at the same time that all-important gift of a common education, namely, social and intellectual unity, which would be by this plan secured to the students of the National University. It is easy, also, to see how much more trustworthy our whole system of higher education would be were it to be kept under the influence of a body whose wealth and general resources would enable them more fully to realize the ideal of what a university should be—not only a mere training-school for the arts and sciences, but as a seat of learning, and one which could more thoroughly instil a national education into the minds of its students than it is permitted to the foremost of our Canadian universities to do. To those who would object to the foregoing, on the grounds that a change of this nature would be attended by the danger of such a university becoming non-progressive in its tendency, we would answer, quoting the apt words of Goldwin Smith, that "learning and science themselves are so constantly advancing by a movement as irresistible as it is spontaneous, that it would be difficult for institutions which are the organs of learning and science to stand still." We regret that our space will not permit us to enter as fully as we could wish

into this subject, but we regard the decision of the Literary Society as an evidence of the deep hold which this view of the question has upon the minds of those members of our *Alma Mater* who compose the Association, and are gratified therewith.

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LORNE AND LOUISE.

As soon as it was definitely announced that the Marquis of Lorne and her Royal Highness the Princess Louise intended to visit the University, steps were taken by the students of the various Faculties to arrange for a demonstration by the undergraduates. The following committee was elected with full power to do those things which were requisite and necessary.

Medicine: Henwood, Lefebvre, Inksetter and Macdonald, (Chairman).

Law: McGibbon, Trudel, McLennan and Redpath.

Arts: Wood (Treasurer), Weir (Secretary), Macpherson and Chaffee.

Science: Morkill, Robertson, Stephens and Drummond.

The Committee met on Wednesday evening Nov. 27th, and arranged the programme, which was so successfully carried out. On Thursday, a very fair number of students met in Molson Hall for the purpose of practising the songs to be rendered on the occasion of the visit of His Excellency, and some sixteen of McGill's sweetest warblers selected to lead the musical exercises. The Vice-Regal party arrived in Montreal on Friday, and on that evening, by invitation of the Committee, the students of all the Faculties assembled at the college to the number of three hundred at least, and having formed in procession, with a trencher and gown on a pole for a banner, proceeded to view the illuminations in the city. The route, lay through the principal streets, and the college *repertoire* of songs was exhausted on the march. "The McGill boys," as the crowd termed us, were cheered loudly by the populace lining the streets, and right of way was in most instances gracefully conceded to the procession. The Governor-General and his Royal consort were serenaded at the Windsor, and a number of the Professors cheered, the proceedings terminating by a visit to the residence of the

Principal, who spoke a few words of acknowledgment. The College was brilliantly lighted up, and the electric and lime lights, under the supervision of Professors Johnston and Harrington, lit up the surrounding neighbourhood quite brightly. The crowd, after expressing themselves highly delighted with the success of the demonstration, separated with cheers for the Faculties, and a united hurrah for the University.

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VICEREGAL VISIT.

On Saturday afternoon the Governor-General and H. R. H. the Princess Louise visited the University, and were received by the undergraduates in a manner which reflected great credit upon them and the committee who arranged the programme.

By three o'clock all the students had congregated on the college steps, and all save the singing committee proceeded to take up their position at the gate, where they awaited the arrival of Their Excellencies, whiling away the monotony of their guardianship by songs and glees. As the time passed and graduates and benefactors with their ladies drove up the avenue in countless numbers, the students could scarcely repress their murmurings, for remembering the terrible crush that had taken place in Molson Hall on the occasion of Lord Dufferin's visit, they imagined that the occurrence would find a repetition in the day's proceedings. When, however, it was known that the Faculty had made satisfactory arrangements for their accommodation, and that the Hall was yet far from being full, they quickly regained their good spirits, and sang with more vigour, and chafed with greater energy the crowd and custodians of the peace, who stood without the gate. About half-past three one of the mounted escort drove up to the College, bearing a note from Colonel Lytton to the Chancellor, saying that the party would arrive at four, and at four precisely the shining helmets of the dragoons announced the coming of the illustrious visitors. Silence prevailed, and the instructions of the members of the committee who were assembled without the gate were heard up the whole line of four hundred students ranged on either side of the avenue. As the party entered the gate those without led

off in three ringing cheers, which were given with such heartiness as to startle the crowd that had gathered on Sherbrooke street, and all spontaneously broke out into the National Anthem. The vice-regal party drove rapidly up the avenue to the entrance door of the Hall, where they were met by the Chancellor and Governors, and conducted up to the Hall. The students slowly followed, four deep, headed by the Committee, and entering the main building passed through the corridor by the museum and librarian's room, where they met the singing Committee, and entered the Hall after the Convocation, singing Latoria in true McGill style, the solo being sung by the sixteen warblers.

Owing to the forethought of the authorities in having the seats removed from the centre of the Hall, the students were enabled to take up their positions without that crowding and crushing so noticeable on former occasions of a similar nature.

The proceedings opened by the reading of the following address by Chancellor Day on behalf of the Corporation of the University:

ADDRESS.

*To His Excellency the Most Noble the Marquis of Lorne,
Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada:*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.—The Governors, Principal and Fellows of McGill University desire to offer to Your Excellency a cordial welcome, and in doing so to express their gratification that in approaching Your Excellency as the Representative of our Gracious Queen, they have also the privilege of welcoming the official visitor of this University under its Royal Charter.

In this relation Your Excellency's predecessors have ever shown a lively interest in McGill University, and in the cause of higher education represented by it; and in now hoping for like sympathy and encouragement the University has the satisfaction of knowing that it appeals to one who has heretofore been a patron of learning, and who has himself taken an acknowledged place in literature.

The Governors, Principal and Fellows beg leave to tender to Your Excellency their cordial good wishes, that the highest prosperity and success may attend Your Excellency's administration of the affairs of this Dominion, and their prayer that, with God's blessing, you may be enabled to discharge the duties of your exalted office in such a manner as to secure the welfare of all classes of the people, and to afford a just source of satisfaction to yourself.

They also beg leave respectfully to offer their cordial good wishes to Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, in whom they are happy to recognize one who has been a patroness of education in the mother country, and who they hope may exert a similar beneficent influence here.

Signed, on behalf of the Corporation,

CHARLES DEWEY DAY, D.C.L., LL.D.,
Chancellor.

30th Nov., 1878.

To which His Excellency made the following reply:

REPLY.

To the Governors, Principal and Fellows of the McGill University:

GENTLEMEN.—The Governors of this University, Mr. Principal and Fellows, I assure you that I feel proud, as the representative of the Queen, to be welcomed to your University by the governing body. I rejoice to know that I shall be allowed the happy privilege of showing my interest in your proceedings, and in some measure to be admitted to the society of the learned men over whom you preside. To me personally your kindness is most welcome, for nothing is so interesting to a man coming to reside in a country new to him, than to watch how the community provides for the increasing demands of education. The proper framing of a system for the thorough teaching of youth is perhaps the most important of the many great duties which the citizens of a country must undertake, and it is your part in this common labour to crown the edifice. It is to you that many look for the stamp which tells that youth has not been spent in vain, and the man who wins the mark of your approbation goes forth to the life of the world with the consciousness that there is that in him which may make his career honourable and distinguished and of use to his fellow men. The estimation in which the McGill University is held tells its own story. Believe me, that anything I may be permitted to do, to encourage you will not be wanting, and that it affords the Princess and myself much pleasure to learn that we may look forward to again visiting you, and of marking our esteem and respect for your University.

(Signed) LORNE.

In addition His Excellency expressed the hope that at some future time he would again have the pleasure of visiting the University and addressing the students.

Chancellor Day then requested leave to introduce a deputation of students who were desirous of presenting a bouquet to Princess Louise, to which H. R. H. gave her gracious consent. The deputation, which consisted of the following gentlemen—representatives of the different faculties—Mr. Henwood, Medicine; Mr. Nichol, Law; Mr. Wood, Arts, and Mr. Skafie, Science, approached the dais, and Mr. Henwood, on behalf of the deputation, made the presentation. The Viceregal party then left the hall to visit the library, museum and other places of interest about the College—the students singing "Alouette" as they passed down toward the stairs. After having partaken of refreshments in the "sacred precincts" of the Faculty room, they left the college by the main entrance, where they were received by the students and lustily cheered, God Save the Queen being sung as they took their departure.

The reception was in every respect the most successful of any that has ever been given by the undergraduates of the University. The ribbons worn by the students had the following inscription:—"Visit of H. E. the Governor-General and H. R. H. Princess Louise, 30th Nov., 1878," with the University arms stamped above.

It is a matter of congratulation to know

that no jealousy existed between the different faculties as to which one should be accorded the honour of presenting the bouquet. The selection of Mr. Henwood from medicine met with the hearty approval of all the students in the University, and that gentleman should feel proud of the popularity he enjoys among his fellow undergraduates.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[This column is open to those students who have questions to ask, or grievances to air. The Editors, however, disclaim all responsibility.]

TO THE EDITORS OF THE MCGILL GAZETTE:

SIRS,—A sentimental correspondent, signing himself "Another Graduate," complains in rather involved English that I termed the ladies who annually patronize the Founders' Festival "fossilized old maids." To my mind they always appeared so; but tastes differ and to the adoring vision of "Another Graduate," these charmers may have seemed lovely, beautiful, witty, and gracious. I differ from him, however, on this point. But the main allegation of my letter has not been denied, and that was, that the Festival was in itself extremely unenjoyable, and was not patronized to any extent by the students generally. This *cannot* be denied. Let us, then, have some entertainment that we can enjoy. I suggest a dinner. It would be a great reunion of McGill men, graduates and undergraduates. Dr. Dawson, in his annual lecture, noticed the the Alumni Dinner at Harvard. Why not have one at McGill? Let the Literary Society move in the matter after the holidays, and I feel assured that the project can be carried to a successful issue.

Yours truly,
GRADUATE.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE MCGILL GAZETTE:—

GENTLEMEN,—We beg to solicit leave to reply to a letter in your last edition written over the name of "Undergraduate," and which was neither more nor less than a libellous attack upon some students whom he is pleased to designate by the name of deserters.

At the beginning of his letter he says there are two things to be deeply regretted—one of which being that the University Club has fallen from the standard it has long held, and the other being one of the causes which led to

this degeneration. The two gentlemen styled traitors, together with another who would have received that same encomium had he not been prevented from playing by circumstances over which he had no control, regret as deeply as does "Undergraduate" the decline of the club once so glorious on the football field.

As a matter of fact, it may be stated these students desired and proposed, not more than four weeks ago, to unite with the University club in playing the hitherto annual match of "Town vs. Gown," provided only that one of last year's team should act as captain. This proposal having been submitted to the committee was rejected by them, thus indicating who was the cause of any little difficulty which stood in the way of the union of University men.

"Undergraduate" informs us "that these gentlemen withdrew from the College club." Judging from the recklessness with which he speaks of matters of which he shows himself to be entirely ignorant, this does not in the least surprise us. That the statement is entirely without foundation it is needless to say. A charge of inconsistency is brought against one student who resigned his official connection with the University club owing to want of time. Now, if "Undergraduate," ingenious muddler of facts though he be, had thought a little before he wrote he would have discovered that the gentleman he referred to had not found time to hold any official position in the "Montreal Club" either, but the "Montreal Club" had found time to ask him to play, which the College club did not. While congratulating himself that the Harvard men did not come to Montreal this autumn, as they would thereby have witnessed "our petty quarrels," he takes the first and best opportunity of placing before them, through the medium of the press, not only these but also an entire misrepresentation of the case.

He caps the climax of his absurdity by referring to a fact originated in his own fertile brain, and which alludes to a contention for the same office between the two deserters whom he is pleased to specialize, and concludes by using such epithets as "*Dear little Children!*"—the only effect of which is to reflect anything but credit on himself and his statements, and which are characteristic of an extremely weak-minded female, or a Freshman of the mildest type.

THE "QUASI" TRAITORS.

CLIPPINGS.

"Full many a roll of pony leaves serene,
The dark unthought sleeves and text-books bear;
Full many a crib is born to blush unseen,
Yet shed assistance hidden by the chair."—*Echo.*

Instructor (examining geometrical figures on the board), "I don't understand these constructions." Student, "Very well, I'll see you after recitation and explain them to you."—*Ex.*

A paper innocently asks if there is any harm in sitting in the laps(e) of ages. We think it depends entirely upon the ages, and should say that the ages between 17 and 25 are extremely hazardous.—*Ex.*

An intoxicated man, passing a door over which was the sign, "Cast Iron Sinks," looked up, and after reading the sign several times, chuckled and said: "Well, who the—(hic)—said it didn't?"—*Ex.*

Our "Exchanges" are requested to "lay" the following to heart:

Lives of great men all remind you
You can make your lives sublime,
And departing, leave behind you
Tons of awful, wretched rhyme.—*Ex.*

Not long ago a junior was out riding with one of the Amherst beauties by his side, when, looking up pensively into his face, she said, with tears in her eyes, "Oh, no one loves me, Mr. R." "Some one does," he replied. "Yes," said the lady, pressing his arm ever so lightly. "Yes, Miss Lizzie," continued the wretch, "God loves you."—*Student.*

Fair charmer (who thinks she knows all about college affairs)—"Is it possible, Mr. Tomkins, that you are not acquainted with my brother at Harvard? Why, he sings second bass on the University Base Ball Crew."—*Lampoon.* Reminds us of the athletic young curate who remarked in church as he shut the Bible, "Here endeth the first innings."—*Ex.*

An urgent request is made by one of the ladies for a reform in the young men's dress. The particular aim seems to be to get rid of the "standing collar with two points sticking out," on the ground that the aforesaid points stick into the neck. We are very sorry that the points of the collar should stick into the

young lady's neck, and have no doubt but what the young man in question should remove that unblissful article of apparel if she should state the facts to him.—*Ex.*

Scene upon the campus,
 Ten, last Sunday eve;
 Pretty little maiden
 Clinging to his 'eeve,
 Very much embarrassed.
 Don't know what to say,
 Freshie's very verdant—
 Silent all the way!

Coming up the hill he'd
 Scarcely said a word,
 And they'd walked so slowly
 It was quite absurd!
 Damsel on his arm is
 Clinging pretty tight;
 Asks him 'what the harm is
 Talking Sunday night?

Fresh, grown braver, says the
 Moon, so bright above
 Brings to mind the text, that
 Always "God is love."
 Then the sweet, sage maiden,
 Ere they've gone a rod,
 Laughs, through red'ning blushes,
 "Let us talk of God!"—*Ex.*

Jack, I hear you've gone and done it.
 Yes, I know; most fellows will;
 Went and tried it once myself, sir,
 Though you see, I'm single still.
 And you met her—did you tell me?
 Down at Newport last July,
 And resolved to ask the question
 At a soiree? So did I.

I suppose you left the ball room
 With its music and its light;
 For they say love's flame is brightest
 In the darkness of the night.
 Well, you walked along together,
 Overhead the starlit sky,
 And I'll bet—old man confess it—
 You were frightened. So was I.

So you strolled along the terrace,
 Saw the summer moonlight pour
 All its radiance on the waters
 As they ripple on the shore;
 'Til I saw when you gathered courage,
 When you saw that none were nigh,—
 Did you draw her close and tell her
 That you loved her? So did I.

Well I needn't ask you further,
 And I'm sure I wish you joy,
 Think I'll wander down and see you
 When you're married—eh, my boy?
 When the honeymoon is over
 And you're settled down, we'll try—
 What? The deuce you say! Rejected,
 You rejected? So was I!—*Ex.*

Prof.—"Why did Marcus Curtius jump into the Gulf at Rome?" Student.—"Because he thought it was a good opening for a young man."—*Ex.*

FRESHMEN.

Arts.

Barber, Henry M.
 Barron, Thos. J.
 Belcher, Fred. G.
 Cliphaw, John W.
 Cockfield, Henry.
 Fraser, James.
 Fry, James.
 Hague, Henry J.
 Lafleur, Henri A.
 Mc'ras, Lawrence O.
 McKillop, Peter C.
 Martin, Alfred W.
 Morrin, Joseph L.
 Reid, John T.
 Richardson, Jas. S.
 Richardson, Alex. W.
 Rielle, Norman J.
 Smith, Arthur W.
 Stewart, Robert.
 Stirling, Robert.
 Thomas, Francis W. J.
 Trenholme, Chas. W.
 Westlake, Henry W.
 Whillans, George.

Law.

Bergevin, Joseph D.
 Cantin, Chas. A.
 Chagnon, Marie J. E.
 Cholette, Arthur Henri.
 Church, Fred W. H.
 Cross, Alexander.
 Dagenas, Joseph A.
 Fagnault, Henri P.
 Forster, Joseph L.
 Foster, George T.
 Gauthier, Antoine A.
 Glass, Charles G.
 Ingalls, Allen G.
 Klock, Robert A.
 Lane, Campbell.
 Laron, Joseph S.
 Lee, William H.
 Marsan, Louis G.
 McMahon, Edmond M.
 Oughtred, Allan R.
 Pease, Edson L.
 Poirier, Toussaint.
 Raynes, Charles.
 Redpath, William W.
 Rutherford, Alex. C.

Shortis, James U.
 Smith, Robert C.
 Trudel, Louis P.
 Ussher, Rev. B. B.
 Weir, William A.

Science.

Hague, Frederick.
 Waddell, Montgomery.
 Green, Thos. D.
 Gnesdinger, Fritz G.
 Foster, Philip L.
 Low, A. P.
 Burland, Jeffreys H.
 Skaife, Louis.

Medicine.

Bangs, E. C.
 Burland, B. W.
 Cameron, John W.
 Campbell, R. F.
 Campbell, Lorne.
 Cattanach, A. McK.
 Christie, Edmund.
 Cutbert, Albert.
 Dawson, Rankin.
 Deynier, W. W.
 Duncan, W. T.
 Edick, G. H.
 Gale, H.
 Graham, G.
 Grant, J.
 Hanvey, C. B. H.
 Holmes, F. A.
 Howard, R. J. B.
 Lindsay, J. A.
 McCaffrey, F. F.
 McLean, T. N.
 McMillan, D.
 O'Brien, T. J.
 Ogden, H. V.
 O'Kieffe, H.
 Scott, S. M.
 Shaver, J. H.
 Show, A.
 Shaver, W. H.
 Shiray, Geo.
 Smith, A. W.
 Thompson, W. E.
 Trueman, J. E.
 Thornton, A. W.
 Vannier, P.

—000—

ITEMS.

Harmony! sweet harmony!

Faculty dissensions have vanished.

The Snow-Shoe Club will be started soon.

The Science men are to have a supper shortly.

The Law students praise highly the regularity of their Professors.

The Meds. are asking for a clinical teacher for the University Lying-in Hospital.

Medical lectures close on the 19th, the Freshman examinations in Botany being held on the 14th.

Lectures closed on the 6th. Exams. commenced on the 10th inst. Woe to the Freshman that said, "four days holidays before exams."

We are glad to notice, that as examinations approached, the number of Arts and Science students attending "Chapel," increased materially.

One small boy's enthusiasm at the procession of the students found vent in the exclamation, "Hooray for the Snatchers!" What does it mean?

The collection of songs will not be out until about the 1st of January, as the students have not sent in many original songs, and they are what is wanted.

The Sophomore class in Arts are discussing the Elizabethian Age with Prof. Moyses, and although this lecture is not compulsory, they attend it in a body.

The gymnasium is being well attended, from thirty to forty being present every instruction day. The examinations, however, will considerably lessen the number.

It has been suggested that the students of McGill give a concert after the holidays in aid of the General Hospital. The talent is present and the thing only wants starting.

Of late the weekly meetings of the University Literary Society have been very interesting, several excellent essays having been given by some of its most active members.

A change in the curriculum of the Medical Faculty compels Freshmen to undergo written examinations in Anatomy, Physiology, Materia Medica and Chemistry, in the spring.

The bouquet presented to H. R. H. Princess Louise was a production of the Boston Floral Mart, and was arranged under the supervision of Mr. Moore, the general manager, whose taste for floral decorations cannot be surpassed in the Dominion.

At a meeting of the University Snow-shoe Club, held Saturday evening, the following

were elected office-bearers: T. Brown (Med.), President; H. H. Wood (Arts), Vice-President; E. Guerin (Law), Secretary; W. T. Robertson (Science), Treasurer; W. Drummond (Med.), Leader.

At the first regular meeting of the Society of Students in the Faculty of Science, held on the First of November, the following officers were elected:

President—John S. O'Dwyer.

Vice-President—W. F. Robertson.

Secretary Treasurer—W. T. Skaife.

The following officers were elected by the Law Students at a meeting held on Tuesday Nov. 19th, to manage the affairs of the Moat Club: President, W. H. Kerr, Esq., Q. C., LL. D., Acting Dean; Vice-Presidents, the Hon. H. F. Rainville, J. Wurtele, Esq., M. P. P., B. C. L., N. W. Trenholme, Esq., M. A., B. C. L., J. S. Archibald, Esq., M. A., B. C. L., M. Hutchison, Esq., B. C. L., Edmund Lareau, Esq., B. C. L.; Committee, R. D. McGibbon, B. A., '79, Boutillier J. Trudel, '79, P. G. Martineau, '79, A. W. Atwater, B. A., '80, R. Weir, '80.

It is rumored that Prof. Moyses contemplates delivering a course of lectures on English Composition to the Third Year Science Students. Though these students consider themselves already quite over-burdened with work, there is no question that they would all thoroughly appreciate these lectures, not only for the importance of the subject, which will no doubt be exhaustively treated by our popular professor of English Literature, but also as a most agreeable change from the heights of the Calculus, and the unfathomable depths of Rankine.

A debating society having been established by the students of Morrin College, Quebec, a meeting was held in one of the class rooms on Friday evening, the 6th inst. The following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year: Honourary President, Dr. Cook; President, Rev. Prof. McQuarrie, B. A.; Vice-President, Mr. J. T. Paterson; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Henry Hemming, jr. The programme for the evening consisted of a reading by Mr. McConachie, and a paper on the Life and Poems of Lord Byron, by Mr. A. Maxwell. The debate for Friday evening, 13th inst., will be "Classics versus Mathematics."

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SINGING.

NOTICE TO STUDENTS.

AS Singing has taken so well among the students, it is the intention of a member of our staff to publish a collection of songs of McGill, as well as the popular college songs of the day. Students and graduates will greatly oblige the publisher by sending a copy of any McGill or other college songs that they may deem worthy of publication. All songs must be sent in before Dec. 21st, as the collection will be published on or about Dec. 30th. The price will be about 30 or 35c per volume, and all who are willing to subscribe towards this laudable object are requested to send in their names immediately, as a sufficient number of subscribers must be obtained before the publication can be commenced. Address,

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