

Ontario Normal College Monthly.

HAMILTON, ONTARIO, NOVEMBER, 1899.

Ontario Normal College Monthly

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• WITH the present issue, the O. N. C. MONTHLY begins a new volume, the second of its history. For this first number the Editors bespeak indulgence rather than criticism. In a paper whose staff and readers so completely change each year, improvements resulting from experience must necessarily be slow and limited. And so it is with us. We have set out upon a new and untried path, and to tread it aright demands the co-operation of all. The MONTHLY is published by the students and for the students; it will endeavor to reflect life at the Normal College in all its aspects, intellectual, social and physical. Its articles will not be confined to questions of the lecture room; nor will amusement alone occupy its attention. There is a happy mean and this we shall strive to adopt.

In each issue we hope to number among our contributors, writers of recognized standing in this country, whose messages may prove at once instructive and inspiring.

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IN a College whose prescribed course is completed in eight months we can hardly expect a very deep and lasting college spirit to arise—

yet if a person would pay a visit to any of the functions of the Ontario Normal College he would at once see manifested there the germs of a life which under favorable conditions of time would be sure to produce a vigorous and healthy *esprit de corps*. Feelings of mutual esteem and confidence are shown on every hand, and nothing that would mar the social peace or cause discord to usurp the throne on which sits perfect harmony, dares even raise its head. We are comparatively few in numbers, but we present an unbroken and unwavering front to the cares and vicissitudes that beset our course. Life is not ever a bed of roses, and even here we must expect to find thorns and stumbling blocks, but by boldly facing each difficulty in its turn, and by wisely availing ourselves of the assistance proffered by a competent staff of instructors we may have a reasonable assurance of surmounting all the trials that beset our path, and that from a lofty vantage ground we may view the scene of our late conflict and triumph, still mindful of and grateful for the kindly assistance and heartfelt sympathy of our fellow toilers. May this spirit of union and harmony continue to be a most conspicuous characteristic of the last graduating class of the nineteenth century.

* *

ONE of the institutions in this city worthy of special mention is the Public Library. Here are 30,000 volumes

placed freely at our disposal. To many for the first time is presented the opportunity of reading the best literature, not only the "good books of the hour" but the "good books of all time," the classics of our language.

Such work will take time but no one should begrudge spending a few minutes, or even an hour each day in this manner. It is true that we will not be able to prepare some book of reference so thoroughly for examination, or review a text book so often but the ultimate advantage of judicious outside reading, where the object is to get at the *being* of a great author, to come into relationship with his absolute personality can hardly be gainsaid.

A few of the regulations of this library may not be out of place here. Readers are allowed access to all except the Fiction shelves. Questions regarding any book or information on any special subject are cheerfully answered by the librarians. The hours of the library are 9.30 a. m. to 8.30 p. m. The reading room remains open for one hour longer. Mr. Thompson has kindly consented to sign the application cards for membership.

* *

THE publication of several of last December's examination papers in this issue, is not intended to cause a dread monster to loom up before our readers, but that they may be furnished with "past experience" as an aid to that sure guide to safety—preparation in times of peace.

* *

NATURALLY all Canadians take pride in and are delighted with the success which has attended the pub-

lic career of Mrs. Knox Black, feelings which cannot fail to be deepened and strengthened by an acquaintance with her charming personality. In giving the students of the Normal College the opportunity of becoming even slightly acquainted with Mrs. Black and of profiting by the results of her patient and painstaking labors in the field of reading and elocution, the Education Department has granted us a rare chance of gaining a practical insight into the spiritual nature of literature and of acquiring a certain degree of facility in giving clear expression to our interpretation of the literary productions of the great thinkers of former days. We trust that during her sojourn among us, Mrs. Black will have only such experiences as will cause her to have a store of pleasant recollections of the work, from which we are sure to gain great profit.

* *

THE hearty interest in the success of our football team which has been manifested by the faculty, should be a stimulus to all of us to give our boys every support in the contest in which they are now engaged. Arrangements are being made to have a number drive out to witness the game at Waterdown on Saturday. All who can should be on hand.

This reminds us that we are without a college yell, which is a bond of union and often plays no small part in fostering a spirit of loyalty in any institution.

* *

The organization of a Y. M. C. A. in the College was suggested some days ago by Mr. T. A. Rodger, secretary of the city Association. Can this question not be discussed and definitely settled?

To Our Subscribers.

We think it right in this our first issue to take our subscribers into our confidence, and state our position as clearly as possible. In return, we ask that you do all in your power to help us and make the NORMAL COLLEGE MONTHLY a success.

We are glad to say that most of the students are already subscribers, and we hope that before another month we shall be able to say that *all* are. We need every one, so send in your names, and save us the unpleasantness of a personal canvas.

Another thing we are pleased to announce, is, that all our advertising space has been taken up by Hamilton merchants, and the only thing needed to keep them with us, is your patronage. In fact the success or failure of our paper depends not so much on the Editor or Manager as on the student body at large. If you are *all* with us we are bound to succeed. Failure is impossible.

We have taken some trouble while soliciting advertisements to approach only those merchants whom we thought in every way suitable to supply students' wants and to supply them reasonably. We think we have managed to do this, and a careful perusal of the cover of this issue will, we hope, bear us out in this belief. As we have said before, to keep these merchants with us they must have our patronage and *know* they have it.

We hope then, that when you make a purchase at any of our advertisers you will let them know that you saw their advertisement in the college paper and show the merchants that advertising in THE MONTHLY pays, and we shall have no difficulty in filling all our advertising space.

We trust that you will bear in mind these few points, and we also take the opportunity of thanking those who have given us their financial assistance and friendly advice.

THE BUSINESS MANAGERS.

"At Home."

"There was a sound of revelry by night."

On the evening of Friday, November 3rd, the Literary Society of the College took the initial step in making us more socialized individuals by giving a most delightful reception to its members in the beautiful and spacious Assembly Hall of the Collegiate Institute.

In spite of the fact that old Pluvius determined to put a damper on our hospitable feelings, scarcely a member of the class was absent when, shortly after the hour of eight the guests were received by Mrs. Ballard, Mrs. Turner and a very able Reception Committee. These were untiring in their efforts to make all feel thoroughly at home and introductions followed as freely as rain. Dainty programmes of fourteen numbers were rapidly filled with certain vague characters more or less legible which the owner might decipher at will.

The male persuasion seemed to be in the minority but it is to be hoped that they will not become conceited on account of being so very much in demand.

The decorations were very pretty and appropriate, being entirely of flags, and as we gazed at the faded Union Jacks, one's thoughts reverted for a moment perhaps to the dear ones who have gone to uphold the honor of our Queen and Home-land. Another noticeable feature was "Dignity Circle" occupying the centre of the hall where amidst a grove of palms were seated the faculty and their wives, who attracted a great deal of natural non-voluntary attention. We missed from the circle the form of our esteemed Principal, who was unable to be with us on account of the unpropitious weather.

Truly, we were a very good looking "crowd." The girls were very sweet in their "chic" organdies and silk-waists which would have done credit

to a Parisian artiste. As for the sterner element, well, their dress differed "not in kind but in degree."

Presently above the buzz of conversation arose dismal squeakings and scrapings peculiar to "tuning-up." Then the air was filled with waves of melody and the promenade was on. Giddy pedagogues for one short evening discarded their masks and yielded themselves up to the genial influences of the hour. That almost habitual expression of care and worry gradually disappeared and care-worn features relaxing, took in a happier, softer expression. Old Psychology with his "analytico-synthetic discriminatory-unifactory-interpretatory-asimilatory, particular-universal, wholing and parting, parting and wholing" method was a back number and the cute little god with his cunning little bow and arrow reigned in his stead. The supper was most recherche, served at little tete-a-tete tables where one might smile over his coffee cup without fear of an attendant criticism.

But all too soon our frolic was over. The stirring strains of the National Anthem warned us that the hour of mid-night had come and gone, that we must leave the festive scene and go out into the darkness and the rain. But not alone we went, but with a host of memories lingering in the mind, memories in which bursts of of happy laughter mingle with gay snatches of music, sweet perfume of flowers and a blur of laughing faces. May we never forget this, our first "At Home."

IGNORAMUS.

A Liberal Education.

The following is Prof. Huxley's famous definition:

"That man, I think, has had a liberal education, who has been so trained in his youth that his body is the ready servant of his will, and does with ease and pleasure all the

work that, as a mechanism, it is capable of; whose intellect is a clear, cold, logic engine, with all its parts of equal strength, and in smooth working order; ready, like a steam engine, to be turned to any kind of work, and spin the gossamers as well as forge the anchors of the mind; whose mind is stored with a knowledge of the great and fundamental truths of nature and of the laws of her operations; one who, no stunted ascetic, is full of life and fire, but whose passions are trained to come to heel by a vigorous will, the servant of a tender conscience; who has learned to love all beauty, whether of nature or of art, to hate all vileness, and to respect others as himself."

The Glee Club.

That the students of the Ontario Normal College are not all "plugs" was testified to by the manner in which they turned out to organize a Glee Club on October 25th, 1899. The meeting was a large and enthusiastic one, and after keen competition the following officers were elected:

Hon-President,—Mr. R. A. Thompson, Principal of the Collegiate Institute.

President,—Mr. J. A. Smith.

Vice-President—Miss Isabelle Tennant, B.A.

Secretary—Miss Amy Morrison B.A.

Treasurer—Mr. J. N. Robertson, B.A.

Accompanist—Miss J. Dowler.

Librarian—Mr. W. R. Saunders, B.A.

Committee—Miss Mabel Smith, B.A. Miss Stella Procutier.

The conductor of the club, Mr. Johnson, is so well and favorably known in Hamilton that it is unnecessary to sound his praises here.

The work has been entered into with enthusiasm, and it is the aim of the club to give a series of national concerts during the winter. The first concert—a Scotch one—is to be given before the close of the fall term, and to do this successfully demands the hearty co-operation of all the students.

The Literary Society.

A MASS meeting of the students was held in the amphitheatre on the afternoon of Friday, October 6th, to organize the Literary Society—pre-eminently *the* society of the College, claiming every student in its membership by inalienable right and exercising a control over nearly all our other organizations.

Mr. Will was appointed chairman and Mr. Smeaton secretary pro tem. The honorary officers were elected by acclamation, the others, with one exception, faced the ballot. The best of good feeling and order prevailed throughout the whole meeting, and in spite of the fact that most of those present were personally unknown to one another, the Literary Society has surely not yet had reason to be ashamed of the choice of an executive which it made on that occasion. An amusing illustration of this ignorance as to names is furnished in the motion which carried for the appointment of scrutineers among the ladies. This read, "the four at the end of the first row." It is to be regretted that their names were not received and handed down to posterity through the immortal pages of the minute book. The following were the officers elected:

Hon. Presidents—Dr. McLellan and Mr. Thompson.

Patron—Mr. A. McPherson, Chairman of the Board of Education.

President—D. McDougall, B. A.

1st Vice-President—Miss A. Morin, M. A.

2nd Vice-President—Miss Andison, B. A.

Recording Secretary—E. H. Young.

Cor. Secretary—H. H. Black, M. A.

Treasurer—W. Smeaton, B. A.

Curator—Miss Rioch (accl.)

Councilors—Misses M. Wooster, B. A., M. B. Reynar, B. A., and L. D. May; Messrs. Wren, B. A., McKenzie and White, B. A.

FRIDAY, OCT. 13.

The place of meeting on this occasion was the Assembly Hall. The newly elected President gave a short

but appropriate address, returning thanks for his election and asking for the co-operation of all with the executive, to enable them to provide programmes interesting and profitable alike. At Mr. Turner's request the business part of the meeting was postponed and the Society was favored with a helpful address by Mr. Turner, Vice-Principal of the Collegiate Institute, on "Improving our Opportunities," a piano solo by Miss Rioch and a reading by Mr. E. S. Cook.

On returning to the order of business, it was decided to publish a monthly journal, the staff to consist of an Editorial Board of two ladies and two gentlemen, these to select their editor-in-chief, together with a business manager and assistant. The Executive Committee on being so empowered, brought forward several names, but balloting on these was postponed for a week in order to allow of other names being added.

The appointment of a committee to select papers and magazines for the reading room was left in the hands of the Executive, as was also that of a reception committee.

It was decided to appoint a permanent pianist, and after an exciting election Miss Lick was chosen.

The Executive, who were considered by Mr. Ramsay to have too much spare time on their hands, were asked to appoint a committee to consider the advisability of forming a glee club.

The constitution was ordered to be hung up (the society suspending it in the meanwhile) for examination. And there, at this writing, it still remaineth.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20.

The editorial board and business managers of the MONTHLY were elected at this meeting, and are given elsewhere in this issue. After considerable discussion they were given

power to appoint one of their number as editor-in-chief.

The following Reception Committee was recommended by the Executive and elected: Messrs. Munro (convenor), Brady, Reid and Donnelly, and Misses McLennan, Briggs, Cleary and Kyle.

The Glee Club Committee recommended through Mr. Carter that a club be formed to be under the control of the Literary Society in all financial affairs. The report was adopted after this latter clause was struck out.

The programme soon dispelled the cares of business: Piano solo, Miss Bauer; address on athletics, T. Kennedy; vocal solo, J. A. Smith.

Bicycle Club.

One of the last organized but by no means the least popular organizations of the College is the O. N. C. Bicycle Club. The Athletic Association appointed a committee consisting of Messrs Eagle, Ramsay and Robertson to organize and promote the interests of this branch of athletics. At a meeting of those interested in wheeling, at which a goodly number of lady bicyclists were present, Mr. Eagle was appointed captain and it was decided to have club runs to the various places of interest in the neighborhood of the city, such as Stoney Creek, Burlington Beach, etc. Owing to the inclemency of the weather the run to Stoney Creek arranged for Friday November 3rd failed to come off, although twenty members bent on enjoying themselves lined up at the College. The members are hoping, however, that there may be suitable weather before the winter closes in, to allow the club to have several successful runs.

Who We Are.

AS it now stands the Ontario Normal College represents the combined efforts of the leading educationists of Ontario, which is tantamount to saying that the greatest educationists of the day, irrespective of country or continent, have herein embodied and given expression to the fruits of years of patient and laborious study, research and experience. To Ontario, always in the van of educational progress, is due the honor of being the first on this continent to see the necessity of a sound professional training of those about to become teachers in secondary schools. Needless to say this want was felt some time before it could be even partially satisfied. Not until the year 1885 was the first attempt made to realize what all felt to be a coveted goal. In that year two Collegiate Institutes were utilized for four months of the year for the training of High School teachers. Three years later the number was increased to five, in all of which the whole time was devoted to attaining reasonable proficiency in the *art* of education.

In 1889 an onward step was taken by the establishment of the School of Pedagogy in Toronto. The length of the term was still four months but one-half of the time was spent in the study of the *science* of education, while the remaining two months were spent in practical teaching in the various training institutes throughout the province. In 1891 the outside training schools were dropped and their work was assumed by the Collegiate Institutes of Toronto.

Still the state of affairs was not satisfactory to those most interested. It was felt that a longer period than four months was necessary for the proper training of those to whose care young Ontario was to be entrusted and the course was lengthened to eight months. Again, the

institution had no suitable home, and hence arrangements were made by which the School of Pedagogy became the Ontario Normal College with comfortable accomodation in the City of Hamilton. Although in previous years the capacity of the College has been severely taxed, yet this year there is little room for complaint of overcrowding, and with a smaller attendance future classes will doubtless be perfectly comfortable.

For the convenience of our readers we publish a few statistics which will show how the present class compares numerically with the classes that have graduated since 1893.

	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
1893-94.....	43	34	82
1894-95.....	67	40	107
1895-96.....	85	75	160
1896-97.....	79	67	146
1897-98.....	95	113	208
1898-99.....	86	88	174
1899-1900.....	59	92	151

The class of 1899-1900 is made up as follows:

	MEN	WOMEN	TOT'L
Toronto Graduates....	19	19	38
Queen's ".....	7	4	11
McMaster ".....	2	0	2
Trinity ".....	1	1	2
McGill ".....	0	2	2
Senior Leaving.....	30	66	96

Of those registered as Senior Leaving a number have completed one or more years of a University Course.

SPECIALISTS	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
Mathematics.....	9	4	13
English.....	2	10	12
Moderns.....	1	11	12
Classics.....	10	1	11
Science.....	4	0	4

THE suggestion has been made, and we believe it is a good one, that a committee be appointed as soon as possible to select the photographer for the class group, in order that those who wish, may have their photos taken before Xmas.

ATHLETICS.

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

This organization was the first to make its appearance in our college life, and started on its way on Wednesday, October 4th. It was formed to control all branches of sport. There was a spirited election for the offices of president and secretary-treasurer; the others went by acclamation. The following were the officers chosen:

Honorary Presidents: Hon. G. W. Ross, Dr. McLellan.

President: Thos. Kennedy.

Secretary-Treasurer: J. A. Smith.

Committee: L. R. Halnan, J. S. Wren, E. J. Reid.

The Executive was instructed to send representatives to a meeting to be held the next evening, for the purpose of organizing a district football league.

At a meeting held on October 6th, it was decided to enter the league and to engage the Y. M. C. A. grounds for practice.

The following sub-committees were appointed subsequently: Football—Messrs. Dunkley, Carter, Hawley. Tennis—Messrs. McKenzie, Black, R. J. Young. Cycling—Messrs. Eagle, Ramsay, Robertson.

O. N. C. W. A. A.

On Monday October 31st, a meeting was held to organize a Women's Athletic Association for this year. The following officers were appointed:

Honorary President, Mrs. McPherson

President, - - Miss Alexander.

Vice-President - Miss Rioch.

Sec'y.-Treas - - Miss Baker.

Committee, Misses Buchner, Mitchell, Cleary and Allen.

Six basket-ball teams have been organized, and started to play last week, the gymnasium being reserved

for the W. A. A. every Tuesday and Thursday from 4 to 6, and Saturday morning from 10 to 12.

This Association, although just organized promises fair, from the interest shown by the members, and very shortly we may expect to hear of great and wondrous deeds.

FOOTBALL.

Of all the outdoor sports which have been indulged in by the students this session, it is safe to say that none has been carried on with so great enthusiasm as football. The reason for this may be found in the fact that we have a team in the field, vying with others for the possession of a handsome trophy, and, in the contest thus far, it has given ample proof of its ability.

And those who have turned out so faithfully and willingly to give practice to the boys have likewise contributed in no small degree to the success which has been attained.

There still remains a difficult task to accomplish. The goal is not yet. But we doubt not, that if the same hearty support given heretofore, both on the field and on the touch line, is still continued, that the end of the season will witness a ribbon of purple and gold encircling the coveted prize.

At an early meeting of the Athletic Association it was decided to send a delegate to a meeting for the formation of a football league. Messrs Carter and Kennedy represented the O. N. C. and brought back word that with the approval of the Association the O. N. C. would enter the Hamilton District League, to compete for a cup offered by the Spectator. This had the desired effect in arousing interest in the game. Having secured the use of the Y. M. C. A. grounds for Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday afternoons, sufficient men were in uniform to have first-class practices. Friday evening, Oct. 13th the Canada Business College played

the O. N. C. a practice match on the Y. M. C. A. grounds. During the first half neither team scored, but shortly after changing goals the Normal College notched two points. Play continued with odds slightly in favor of the O. N. C. until within a minute of time the Business College secured a goal. This first victory gave the boys encouragement.

On Saturday Oct. 21st the following team lined up against Waterdown in their first league match.

Goal, Pettit; backs, Reid, Carter; halves, Halnan, Saunders, Ruddell; forwards, Dunkley, Wren, Simpson, Jolly, Kennedy.

Referee, Mr. Shaw of St. Matthews.

Play had not gone far when it was apparent that the game belonged to the O. N. C. Five minutes after the whistle blew O. N. C. had gained the first goal, and by half time the score stood 5-0. Within a few minutes of half time Halnan had the misfortune to dislocate his knee. This proved a great loss to the team, his fine checks and well placed drops on goal, helping very materially in the game. During the second half, play seemed loose, no doubt on account of having only ten men a side. The O. N. C. scored 3 more goals to their opponents' 1. Final score 8-1.

On Saturday, November 4th, St. Matthews met the following team from the O. N. C.

Goal, Pettit; backs, Reid, Carter; halves, Saunders, Irwin, Ruddell; forwards, Dunkley, Wren, Shaw, Jermyn, Kennedy.

Referee, Mr. Crawford of the Collegiate.

St. Matthews won the toss and decided to kick with the wind and sun favorable. In a very short time the O. N. C. had placed the ball between the stakes. Until half-time the play was fairly distributed over the field, from goal to goal. After half-time the College made several attacks on their opponents' goal, but without suc-

cess. When our defence was drawn out from goal, the St. Matthews' right secured the ball and with a rush on goal evened up matters. Both teams worked hard to win, but the game ended in a tie, 1-1.

The same evening a meeting of the league was called to consider the drafting a new schedule, on account of the Business College defaulting from the league. There being only three teams left the following schedule was adopted, the first named team having the home game :

Oct. 21st O. N. C. vs Waterdown, referee, R. Shaw.

Nov. 4th St. Matthews vs O. N. C. referee, J Crawford.

Nov. 11th Waterdown vs St. Matthews, referee, J. Wren.

Nov. 18th Waterdown vs O. N. C. referee, R. Shaw.

Nov. 25th O. N. C. vs St. Matthews, referee, J. Stewart.

Dec. 2nd. St. Matthews vs Waterdown, referee, J. Wren.

On Saturday, Nov. 11, St. Matthews were defeated at Waterdown by 2-0. The standing of the clubs is: O. N. C., 3 points, Waterdown, 2, St. Matthews, 1.

NOTES.

Waterdown next!

"I wish I were a boy to go out and help Mr. D— against that big Tiger" one of the ladies was heard to remark.

Jermyn evidently thought his check needed a bath.

Carter (sadly) I've forgotten my blue bonnet, and all these girls here.

The printing of an additional copy of *The Globe* and *The Mail and Empire* is a step duly appreciated by the ladies of the class. As the period between lectures is the only time that most of the students have for using the reading room it is desirable that as many as possible should be accommodated at one time.

The Need for Meditation.

With Thought and Love companions of
our way,
Whate'er the senses take or may refuse,
The Mind's internal heaven shall shed her
dews
Of inspiration on the humblest lay.

One of the most necessary and, at the same time, most difficult things to acquire is the sense of proportion, the right idea of the relative values of aims in life. When we see men giving supreme importance to such different objects and exhausting all their powers in pursuit of them, we are driven to ask if there is not something wrong in them and in ourselves. It is the easiest thing imaginable for one to come to think that which happens to be his chief business in life, whether by circumstance or by choice, to be the "greatest thing in the world," and to refuse even to consider anything else at all. The trouble simply is that we have no reserve power of mind, no intellectual force unused in our over-driven lives with which to take a wider contemplation of things; we see the one thing continually before us, like an object in a photograph which is too near the camera, or like a man viewed by a fly on the floor—the feet are gigantic, the head almost invisible: everything else is warped and diminished in perspective. We are too near to the one thing and we will not let ourselves be even dragged away. We hate to be separated from the all-engrossing work of life; we hate to be alone with ourselves when the question *what is the use of it all?* will compel an answer. It is wonderful what we do when we are alone. We read or we dream; we never meditate. We bury ourselves in a newspaper where the variety of topics is a sure preventive of such awkward questions, or in a book, no matter what kind, but often enough a novel of incident merely; or we fairly take to our heels to seek the society of

other life-afflicted sufferers. That will adequately account for the existence of social clubs and sewing societies. The real reason for this hatred of solitude is fear—fear for oneself, fear of those obstinate questionings that will rot down. We abhor the advice of David to “commune with your own heart on your bed and be still.” If we can’t sleep as soon as we go to bed, we always have an opiate ready. Truly those things which compel solitude—illness, imprisonment, exile, loss of friends—are “celestial benedictions,” as history fully proves.

We have so dinned into our ears a most pernicious saying—pernicious, like most maxims, both in pedagogy and in other places, when not interpreted properly—“There is so much to do and so little time to do it in,” that we seem to find in it a sort of justification for cutting short our hours of idle solitude. But all depends on one word: what is the *much*?

“Not enjoyment and not sorrow
Is our destined end or way;
But to act that each to-morrow
Find us farther than to-day.”

Find us *farther*? But in what direction? There it is again; we can’t escape it; we have to settle *what* we have to do, *where* we are to go. On these points the wisest answer to both that wisdom and philosophy can give us is self-realization, the realizing of the best there is in us. To attempt to do this we must necessarily get acquainted with ourselves, with what there is in us; we cannot do it, in the deepest sense, in the hurly-burly of active life; we must tear down every barrier that we have hitherto raised, and in solitude, not idle but full of purpose, seek to fathom the heights and depths of the noblest subject of study that God has given man—our own human and divine nature.

When we look round and mark the stress and strain of modern life, the high-pressure condition of mod-

ern civilization, well may we be tempted to wonder if we are really better off than our forefathers of three and four centuries ago; well may we sympathize with the prayer of Whittier:

“Forgive our feverish ways

* * * * *
Breathe through the pulses of desire
Thy coolness and Thy balm.”

The blind pursuit of such utter trivialities as make up the greatest part of our lives is deadly to the production of greatness in ourselves and of great men in the world. When we get sick to death of the littleness of things in and round us, our first cry is for some great man, some prophet, to lead us out of the wilderness of our wanderings into some promised land. Such a cry is idle and vain. In no nation and in no age where there is an absence of the elements of greatness in the people can there possibly arise a great man. A Homer, a Shakespeare a Newton, a Faraday can not be looked for from Patagonia or the Islands of the Pacific.

“All thoughts that mould the age begin
Deep down within the primitive soul,
And from the many slowly upward win
To one who grasps the whole.

In his wide brain the feeling deep
That struggled on the many’s tongue
Swells to a tide of thought, whose surges
leap
O’er the weak thrones of wrong.”

We must therefore put ourselves right first, must “work out our own salvation.” And will meditation in solitude accomplish this? In one place Lowell says that

“Action is the birth of thought;”

in another that

“All thought begins in feeling.”

He is right in both cases, as the context will show. Some difficulties will find their solution only in active effort; for the solution of others, and these the most difficult because they are antecedent to any effort, the in-

spiration must come from quiet pondering. "My strength," says the pure Sir Galahad,

"Is as the strength of ten
Because my heart is pure"

and the secret of his purity he tells us:

"I muse on joys that will not cease,
Pure spaces clothed in living beams,
Pure lilies of eternal peace
Whose odours haunt my dreams;
And, stricken by an angel's hand,
This mortal armour that I wear,
This weight and size, this heart and eyes,
Are touched, are turned to finest air."

What is the evidence of history, of biography, on the necessity of solitary meditation for the production of greatness? Of the scores of examples that might be given, a few only will be mentioned. Moses for forty years a shepherd in the desert, John the Baptist, a solitary for the first thirty years of his life; Paul, for three years in Arabia; John the Beloved Disciple, on the Isle of Patmos; Homer and Milton, in their blindness; Dante, in life-long exile; Newton, in his quiet garden; Burns, behind his plough; Bunyan, in prison at Bedford: these are witnesses that must be heard.

What of to-day? It is quite true that here and there are some who meditate in silence—the little great men, the salt of the earth, the earnest of the future; there are no really great men, prophets and seers; meditation is a lost power.

F. F. MACPHERSON.

Sinona At The Lit.

HAVING a peculiar genius for promising to do two things when I have time for only one, I found myself teaching a Virgil lesson and writing a Literary Society report in the self-same week, I was so intent on introducing my own and a certain translator's individuality into the lesson, that I had only a few

original remarks left for the report, and the result is the following offering, sacred to Minerva.

Now that all hope of being model teachers was lost, hither to the spacious halls of the topmost story of the palace we repaired. Here with unavailing aim we buckled on our shoulders (trembling with years) the long-disused arms of old Collegiate Institute Literary Societies. Hither from all quarters boys and timorous maidens stood around in a long train, and thence to many seats by various ways repaired.

The Secretary fled through the long passage, and the President placed himself upon the sacred seat. All became silent, and, eagerly attentive, fixed their eyes upon them. Then Father President from his lofty couch began and introduced himself to us with a friendly address. Perhaps, too, you are curious to hear what was the Secretary's tale, but I know not, for here some unfriendly deity, or other, confounded and bereft me of my reason (I forgot to listen). Then a select band, called the Refreshment Committee, began to speak the dismal tidings of how many people it could feed on a given sum, which intimation no sooner reached the ears of the multitude, than their minds were stunned, and freezing horror thrilled through their very bones, anxious to know whom the fates destined. For us their salted cakes were prepared, but from death we made our escape.

Then, indeed, new terror diffused itself through the quaking hearts of all, fearing who should next be dedicated, and when a virgin was destined to the altar of critic, all assented, and were content to have what each dreaded for himself, turned off to the ruin of one poor wretch.

Then, adventuring to dart their voices through the shades, the business manager and the editor of our journal again and again commended to us their sacred charge. By which

mournful accents our affections were at once moved toward them, and fortune smiled upon their enterprise.

Thereupon a maiden poured her joy forth to the open air, and a youth, with much ado, declared what message he brought—oh, that we had exhorted him from what race he sprang! (I couldn't understand what he was saying.) Forthwith a companion, armed as he was with a weapon, lifted up his hands and made strains on it, so that its hollow caverns rang with the gentle touch.

If accidentally, in the course of report, the name of Boer ever reached your ears, you will understand why storms of words began to roar through all the regions of the air. Louder and louder the sounds rose on my ear. Two contrivers of wicked designs whose unworthy cause had deformed the serenity of their looks, nor spared their tongues and passion, but talked of reverence paid to the laws of nations, and called on Britain to abide by her promises, lest she have not heaven on her side. They declared themselves free to bring forth to light all the dark designs of the Britains, and cried out, "Oh, wretched countrymen, what desperate infatuation: is this present war?" But theirs was a villainous evidence, because they gave their report against the war. Thus was I rapidly reflecting, and furiously agitated in my soul, for every sound alarmed me, anxious, and all whose minds had wiser sentiments. There arose another youth, and they were well known truths he spake. As he stood among the gazing crowd:

"Now learn the treachery of the Boers, and from some crimes take a specimen of the whole nation." Then we, impatient, find out the causes of the war, unacquainted with such consummate villainy and Boerish artifice. "Now, now is no delay;" and another cries out, "I am all submission, and where you lead the way, I am with you." Three resolute souls, prepared

for any event, were silently lurking in a secret corner, from which with joy they issued forth. Then was the truth of the matter confirmed, and we were supplied with courage and strength for victory, so that in every danger will we stand by Britain.

Forthwith two virgins broke silence by concert, and with the gift of goddesses most sweet, made music swift as the winged winds, but, alas, resembling most a fleeting dream.

Meanwhile the heavens changed and night advanced rapidly, so down we came from the high citadel into the desolate corridors, thence away through the gloomy paths we betook ourselves to our paternal seats.

Y. W. C. A.

At a meeting held on Monday, Nov. 13th, a Young Woman's Christian Association was organized with the following officers:

Hon. President—Mrs. Davidson.
 President—Miss Gould.
 Vice-President—Miss Smith.
 Rec. Secretary—Miss A. Lick.
 Cor. Secretary—Miss F. Reynolds.
 Treasurer—Miss Proconier.

Convenors of Committees: Membership, Miss Stone; Missionary, Miss M. Reynolds; Musical, Miss Shawcross.

Meetings are held on Monday afternoons at 4.15 in Room C.

The Coming Play.

The Executive Committee of the Literary Society have decided that none of the varied abilities of our members should remain dormant. With this end in view they appointed a sub-committee to arrange for the production of some suitable play to be placed on the boards early next month. We understand that this committee have been very successful in their labors. A play has been selected, "The Fatal Passion," and a strong caste secured.

That Bicycle Run.

The morning of Nov. 3rd dawned bright and clear, and high were the hopes of the bicyclists of the O. N. C. for in the afternoon they were to have their first run to Bartonville. But later the clouds grew dark and threatening and a few drops of rain fell. Nevertheless about twenty enthusiasts assembled, and defying the weather, set out. After they had gone a few blocks along King Street East they were forced to shelter themselves and their wheels beneath a friendly verandah. About ten minutes afterwards groups of two or three were seen flying back to the College wiser but not sadder cyclists.

NOTES.

Introductions were slightly informal; "My name is Smith, what is yours."

The gentlemen suggested regaling the ladies on peanuts, but unfortunately their pecuniary circumstances did not permit of it.

The Literary Society.

FRIDAY, OCT. 27.

The report of the Reception Committee was presented by P. F. Munro, selecting Nov. 3rd as the date of reception. Miss Alexander was appointed critic. After brief addresses by Messrs. Will and Powell, on behalf of the MONTHLY, the following programme was heard: Vocal solo, Miss A. Lick; recitation, E. S. Coons; guitar solo, H. F. Cook; debate: "Resolved that the Boers' struggle for independence is justifiable." Affirmative, Messrs. Robertson and Ramsay, negative, Messrs. Simpson and McKenzie. Piano duet, Misses Briggs and Elmslie. The judges of the debate, Messrs. Will, Smeaton and Kennedy, gave their decision in favor of the negative.

FRIDAY, NOV. 10.

The necessary business was promptly attended to. A debt of \$100 on the piano, which was a partial gift from Hon. G. W. Ross, will be decreased by a concert next month. E. T. White gave notice of motion of proposed changes in the constitution, whereby the Editorial Board will be considered as officers of the society. After W. Malcolm had been appointed critic the following interesting programme was rendered: Piano solo, Miss Ethel Stock; addresses on Canadian heroes and heroines—Madeline of Vercheres, by Miss May; Abigail Becker, by Miss Watterworth; Laura Secord, by Miss Buchner; the heroes of the Long Sault, by Miss Bruce. Vocal solo by Miss Connor; reading by E. H. Young; and banjo duet (encored) by Miss Dowler and Mr. Robinson.

St. John Church Reception.

The reception tendered by the Bible Class of St. John Presbyterian Church to the students of the college on the evening of Tuesday, November 7th, was much appreciated by the large number who attended and partook of the hospitality so kindly offered. During the evening Rev. John Young gave an address of welcome, and was ably assisted by Miss Henderson on behalf of the Bible Class. Mr. White replied for the college. A fine musical programme was provided and at the close light refreshments served.

It is occasions such as this that give us a needed relaxation from study, and in no small measure serve to render enjoyable the social side of our life in Hamilton.

The next historian of the Emerald Isle would do well to consult Mr. K——y for particulars of the *resurrection* of 1798.

Personals.

L. R. Halna, whose knee was dislocated at the O. N. C. Waterdown game, had the misfortune to injure it again last week, and was confined to his room for several days.

J. H. Donnelly was called home two weeks ago by the sad news of the death of his father. The MONTHLY extends its sympathy to Mr. Donnelly in his trouble.

J. S. Wren went down to 'Varsity last Friday to have his degree conferred.

E. Carter and H. F. Cook have been appointed correspondents by "Varsity."

Miss Wilkinson has been seriously ill for the past three weeks at her home in Toronto, but is now recovering.

Miss Irene Andison acted as bridesmaid at the wedding of her sister, which took place in this city on November 8th.

Owing to the death of an only brother, Mr. G. A. Kingston, B. A., has found it advisable to discontinue his Normal College course in order to aid his father in the management of the farm. The class in general, but more especially his numerous friends, regret that he is unable to continue with us. His natural ability, combined with regular and studious habits, would have assured for him a successful career in the teaching profession. But these same qualities should now stand him in good stead and make his sphere of influence far-reaching and beneficial.

The class has suffered yet another loss in the person of Mr. R. Tegler, B. A. For various reasons of his own, Mr. Tegler has decided to abandon the noble profession of teaching for one for which he feels himself better

adapted by natural aptness and temperament. We are not yet certain what vocation in life he has decided to follow up; whatever it be we wish him every success.

Just Among Ourselves.

"Have you paid your fees?"

Ell--tt--Bartonville is rather far.

"Wo ist——Strasze? *Cerman.*

Who told Brady *when* to publish his new grammar.

Fresh roasted or rather, *cooked* peanuts have a good Psychological effect when eaten in the open air.

Ans.—N. C. student teaching a lesson on flowers in Stinson Street School asked a little girl what she liked to have brought her when ill. The child replied in all seriousness "Chicken broth."

It has been rumored that there is soon to be a new Germyn system of Tonic Sol-Fa introduced that can readily be sung at sight. It is awe-inspiring and weird, and it reaches its highest perfection when practised under an electric light at 10.30 p. m.

Is it possible to stand in the dark, look past a bright light and see clearly into the dark? Would it be sight sensation, perception, or mere imagination? Ask C--rt--r.

In the words of a Hamilton Clergyman, to be a perfect citizen: "(a) Don't go to Toronto on bargain days; (b) Don't make fun of our mountain; It's the only one we have."

A class in fencing has been organized among the ladies, under the direction of Mr. Parkhill. The class at present consists of eleven on account of the limited number of foils, but many more are anxious to join if further provision can be made.

Book Reviews.

THE SACHEL SCHOOL ATLAS: forty Maps, 40 pp., price 20 cents. J. G. Cloke, 10 James St. S.

We have no hesitation in pronouncing this little atlas the best of the kind we have yet seen. The maps which are full page, embrace the hemispheres, continents and principal countries with extra ones in many cases to show the physical features. Included in the atlas is a diagram illustrating the seasons and tides.

NO. 5 JOHN STREET, by Richard Whiteing William Briggs, Toronto, Publisher. Cloth \$1.00, paper 50c For sale at Eastwood's.

In No. 5 John Street, Mr. Whiteing has given us a book of great strength, which exhibits the rare combination of a book with a purpose and a work of art. The scene is laid in London, and by giving the experiences of a man of wealth and high rank, who lives for a time in the slums, supporting himself by the labor of his hands, Mr. Whiteing lifts the veil from lives of the poor and reveals them surrounded by sin and vice, toil and suffering; without ambition, hope, or self-respect, their chief concern "to glide through the day with the smallest possible expenditure of body or mind."

His period of probation ended, the hero returns to his wonted life among the "idle rich," who take all their enjoyments as a matter of course and even complain of the necessity of enjoying themselves. Many of their comforts they never fully appreciate because they have never felt the want of them. The need is "not to put Christopher Sly into the Duke's chamber but the Duke into Christopher Sly's."

Remarkably real and true to life are his pictures of the Cockney world and the extravagance and luxury of the rich. But the ravings of the socialist against wealth meet only with ridicule at his hands. The rather does he depict the grim humor found among the poor and the indifference with which they often meet misfortune.

The author displays dramatic skill and power. He shows in his writing earnestness and sympathy, dignity and want of pretence. He carries out his purpose, but he also gives to the book the merits of a novel. It is filled with human nature, and contains all the details essential to a story of real life. He can portray accurately the workings of the mind of the tramp and the millionaire. Although seeing difficulties of social reforms, he recognises the necessity of something being done, when he makes the rough flower-girl plead before the Princess of Wales, not for herself indeed, but for the children, until they have

some strength to fight the battles of life themselves. "Don't give no more dinners to us grown-ups. We're done. But make a lor about the young 'uns. There's your chance. Make a lor to make their fathers and mothers send 'em to school. Make a lor to give 'em two plates o' meat a week—never mind the oranges—and to keep their pore little feet out o' the wet. Make a lor so as they shan't 'it their little sisters—leastways when they ain't two of a size, and the gal can't spar."

WITH KITCHENER TO KHARTUM, by G. W. Stevens: with maps, handsome cloth binding. price 50 cents: J. G. Cloke.

"With Kitchener to Khartum," is the title of a book which has brought to its author Mr. G. W. Stevens, the well-known war correspondent, a marked degree of literary distinction. The style of the book throughout is intensely interesting, but it never borders on the sensational, and, while in one or two places the form of expression might have been improved, it nevertheless strikes the reader forcibly as a work of great literary merit. Unconsciously the reader gains a knowledge of the Soudan and its condition generally, besides learning the history of the doings of the British Army in Egypt since 1884. Character is exceedingly well represented, especially in the case of Sirdar. But it is in scene-painting that Mr. Stevens' powers of description appear to their fullest advantage as the chapters on the battle of Omdurman and funeral of General Gordon clearly prove. While highly instructive and profitable for the older reader, it is suitable for the young as well, being written in a language, clear, and easy to understand; all can read it with profit as well as enjoyment.

Hainan says Carter's Pills are good but they can't touch Carter's Lini-ment.

A meeting to organize a Y. M. C. A. was called, to which ladies only were invited.

A useful practice is being carried on by some of the students of meeting several times a week and discussing the Literature selections. In another case Psychology is taken up. The various opinions expressed at these small gatherings are proving of considerable benefit to those taking part.

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