Toronto, January ifth, 1899

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# THE VARSITY <br> A Weekly Journal of Literature, University Thought and Events. 

Vol. XVIII.
University of Toronto, January il, 1898.

## OREAMS

By my table I sit musing, And the clock ticks slow and low: tad beneath the mellow lamplight Warm my scattered papers glow.

And the green shade softly darkens.
Walls and ceiling of the room: lud in shadlowy outline glimmers. Dim my bookease through the gloom.
And at random roves my fance. Calls to mind forgotten days;
Through my past's dim, faded pictures. Memory's golden search-light plays.
And one scene grows clear before me, Long on it my eyes I feast;
And some mystic charm breathes throngh it, Like the glamor of the East.
It a lady's feet l'm sitting, On the beach beside the sea:
And the white clouds piled in masses, Far above, move silently.

And the shimmering haze of summer, Quivers over wave and sand;
And the glassy swells, umbroken. Listlessly creep toward the land.

And the lady reads from Heine: Blooms the Golden World anew.
Fleets the carcless time, unheeded. Life and Love again are true.
And that langorous scene's enchantment, Far from city, stress and strain,
Steals narcotic through my senses, Soothes my weary, jaded brain.
And once more forgotten feelings, Crowd upon my heart it seems;-
Ah! the clock clangs out the hour. And I'm wakened from my dreams!
W. A. R. Kerr.

## MOCK PARLIAMENT, FRIDAY NIGHT.

The first meeting of the Literary Society will take place Friday night, when the Mock Parliament will be repeated, with the Hon. J H. F. Fisher as Prime Minister, and Alexander McDougall as leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition. A good time is promised, and a large crowd should be on hand to watch, enjoy and criticize their speeches and deliberations.

JEROMEK, JER(OME,

It is altogether likely that the acpuaintance of a sreat many of the raders of \iorsime with Jerome $\mathbb{K}$. Icrome and his writings goes little farther than the name alone. I think I can safely make that statement, especially with reference to the ladies, for they do not constitute a very large part of Jerome's chicutche. His treatment of his subject appeals more to men from the mere fact that his view-point is always that of a man, which is nocessarily essentially different from and usually out of sympathy with that of a woman. He is ahove all a humorist, and his outlook might be stated somewhat in this fashion: "We are all hopeless scoundrels, so let us be kind and gentle to one another." Perhaps he is most fittingly described as the possessor of a vein of shrewd fun.


JEROME K. JEROME,
Jerome is quite a recent writer, his career as an author extending over a period of only some twelve or thirteen years. His success in the world of letters has been rather ephemeral. He was immensely popular at first among a certain class of readers. but for the last five years or so not much has been heard of him. However, his new book "Second thoughts of an

Idle Fellow," which has just been published, may do something toward reawakening an interest in his works.

Doubtless the chief reason for the short duration of his popularity lies in the fact that when one has read and latughed heartily over his witticisms, he has had enough of them, and does not want to return to them again, any more than he would go through a comic paper a second time, and read the same jokes twice. This, of course, is taking his work as a whole. There are passages so intenscly amusing and fundamentally humorous, that they will well bear re-reading, and will afford a hearty laugh time and again. Another feature which this kind of writing possesses in common with the comic paper, is that one must not take too large a dose of it at the same time. One cannot laugh heartily at the jokes in Judge, and then take up Puck immediately afterwards, and enjoy it as thoroughly. That sort of reading palls on one if there is a surfeit of it. Similarly with the writings of Jerome. They are most attractive and enjoyable when taken in instalments. And, moreover, he has written to be read in that manner. His books have no plot which binds together the several incidents from start to finish, but consist for the greater part of a number of separate narratives or essays, each concerning an entirely different subject. When he does divide his work into chapters, as in "Three Men in a Boat," and "The Diary of a Pilgrimage," they have only a time relation to one another, and will afford the reader more enjoyment when read at intervals than if he reads the whole book through in one evening, as it is the custom to do with the ordinary novel. There is no more agreeable way of filling in an odd half-hour than by picking up a volume of Jerome and laughing over one of his amusing essays.

Although he writes like an American, Jerome Klapka Jerome is English. He is still a young man, being only 37 years old. For his age he has had a ripe experience, having served his apprenticeship to a great variety of callings. On first coming to London, he entered the offices of the London and North-Western Railway Company, as a clerk. Giving up that position, he filled, up to 1889 , many varying posts. For a while he taught school, then he became a tutor, after that what is known as a dub actor. Renouncing the stage, he devoted himself to journalism, and finally blossomed into an author, which profession, from all appearances, he intends to follow. He spencls most of his time in London, but has an out-of.town house as well.

By reason of all his many and very different pursuits, he has come into contact with many phases of life, and has rubbed shoulders with all sorts of people. When we consider that, after all, a man's knowledge, that is his practical knowledge, that which he can use readily and freely, and be perfectly certain of, is, to a great extent, proportionate to his experience, it is quite apparent how useful such a varied career would be to Jerome in his profession of author. Probably the feature of his work which stands out most prominently, is the personal element. He is the central figure or one of the central figures in every one of his books, with the exception of John Ingerfield. Although his anecdotes are largely from his own experience, yet he also makes use of stories, which he has come across,
and which he narrates as if they, too, were his own experiences; which, by the way, is a habit of storytellers by no means confined to Jerome.

The author was described to me by a gentleman who met him in England, as a short, slim man with a scrious, imnocent face, and dark-brown eyes. On the whole his appearance is that of a worthy country curate. One is reconciled to this description of the hamorist when he considers that the writers of jokes are proverbially of a sad and sorrowftrl countenance. Mr. Jerome persistently refused to talk about his books, although the conversation was repeatedly turned in that direction. He seemed to prefer discussing politics, ins which he evidently took an intense interest, and it is probable that he would take an active part in political life had he a sufficiently strong constitution. My friend concluded from his conversation that he was an ardent Imperialist. He also found out that he did not think much of the Yankees, his opinion of them being very similar to that of the man who said that taken individually, one could not wish to deal with better men, but as a whole they were a pack of scoundrels.

Mr. Jerome has also tried his hand at dramatic authorship, and has written several plays, but his productions are mostly of the farcical sort. He is successful enough as long as he holds to the farce, for he has the knack of stringing together a number of comical situations, and making his characters say fumny things, just as he does in his books. But when he attempts anything more ambitious than comedy, he is a failure. The reason of this is his lack of dramatic power, sense of contrast and construction, and his inability to conceive and work out a plot. His talent fits itself rather to a random sequence of jokes and aneclotes. This deficiency in his powers is quite manifest in his books, but there it is not a necessity, whereas in a play the plot is all important.

I have heard it stated that ferome is a disciple and imitator of Sammel Clemens, otherwise known as Mark Twain, and have ventured to institute a very faulty comparison between the two men. For myself I cannot see, with one exception, wherein is the great similarity between them. This exception is Jerome's "Three Men in a Boat," which does bear a palpable similarity to Mark Twain's "Rouglhing It." In one particular especially, there is a close resemblance between the two books. In both cases the reader receives the impression that the author is describing things as he goes along, just as they happened. But such is not Jerome's usual style. In his "Diary of a Pilgrimage," which is also the narrative of a trip, one feels that it has been written at home. This is probably accounted for by that striving after ingenious expressions so noticeable in Jerome. The trip to Oberammergau was not a myth, but in reality took place, but there is no doubt that the description is studied.

Mark Twain and Jerome seem to me to belong to quite different classes. The former has more originality of conception and development. Jerome's gift consists in the knack of telling an old story in a manner excelling all previous versions. Twain's fun is more, wholesome and whole-hearted than Jerome's. The latter's humor generally consists in the narrow view which he takes of the subject under discussion. He looks at a thing from one side, often not the prominent side, but which he makes appear to be the prominent
side．He is too apt also to view things from one of their worst aspects，instead of their best，so that his writings whibit ratheer a discouraging and pessimistic tendency． Jerome has been criticized time and again for the nar－ rowness of his view，but I think that therein lies the secret of whatever wit he has．Twain secures a great dial of his humor through his power of exaggeration， as does also Jerome，but the former exaggerates the story as a whole，while the latter magnifies only the one aspect of it which he is particularly ridiculing． Hence it is often the case that Mark Twain＇s yarns are lies，pure and simple，but on the other hand there is always more or less truth in what Jerome says．For one thing that really did happen，Twain imagines many more that might have happened，but we realize plainly， as we are reading them，that they are downright，un－ adulterated lies．We never have that feeling about Jerome．He sticks，for the most part，to common， cveryday things，and does not go out of his way to think up something improbable．He believes that in ordinary，everyday life there happens things as in－ finitely funny as even the most fertile brain can devise， and he is not wrong in his belief．His descriptions ap－ peal to us because a great many of the situations we have experienced ourselves，only they did not strike us in the way they did him，but we clearly see how they would have done so had we had his quick eye for grasping the humorous phase of the position．

There is also certain spontaneity about Mark Twain＇s work which gives it a charm wholly lacking to Jerome＇s．Twain is a born wit，however，and wherever you find him－as an author，as a conversationalist，or as an after dinner speaker．His genius is creative，while Jerome＇s is acquired．It was the latter＇s custom，when he was seeking a permanent position on the staff of some newspaper，to go about London in search of events which were likely to escape the eye of the pro－ fessional reporter．When he encountered some such out－of－the－way occurrence，he proceeded to write it up in several different styles，and sent a distinct account of the affair to several papers to be used or rejected as the editor saw fit．It was from continued practice，such as this，that Jerome acquired his style，which undoubt－ edly is very clever．At the same time，however，this method resulted in one fault．It caused a certain in－ flexibility，both in diction and treatment．This is an－ other reason why one enjoys reading only a limited portion of his work at one time，as otherwise the same－ ness of the style becomes tiresome．We often feel that Jerome is striving to gain an ingenuity of expression which is very clever，and which we enjoy when it is ob－ tained，but which，at the same time，we are able to analyse，and point out just how his arrangement of words and counterposition of situations have contributed to the procuring of a humorous effect．To sum up： Jcrome＇s brand of humor is peculiar，but it is clever， racy and distinct，and very real in its way．

I would have liked to have said something about each of Jerome＇s works，but lack of space has forced me to confine myself to generalities．

Jas．B．Hunter，＇99．
－Japan，the baby among the nations－with deference to the United States－is still the baby in athletics．New World games，however，seem to be gaining a foothold，for Yale purposes sending a base－ ball team and some runners to Tokio to compete with the young Japanese athletes．

## The College Girl

According to the announcement made earlier in term，Scsame appeared before Christmas this ycar－the first time that the Editors have been able to carry out the original intention of the magazine．And as Miss Benson and the other members of the Editorial Board look at their work，they may well be pleased at the success of their efforts．In design，Sosame is much the same as the number of＇ 98 ．The cuts，which con－ sist mainly of views of the various University build－ ings，are very pretty；and the articles are well chosen and show ability．Miss Grant Macclonald，B．A．，last ycar＇s Editor，discusses the merits of the titles＂Girls，＂ or＂Women，＂as applied to students，and decides em－ phatically that we are no more＂College Girls，＂but ＂enceforth＂University Women．＂In a poem called ＂The Second Fall，＂Miss L．M．Mason，＇oo，gives ex－ pression to the feeling that＂there hath passed away a glory from the earth．＂Miss E．M．Balmer，B．A．，has an article entitled＂A Sprig from the Christbatim；＂ and Miss Margaret Hunter，B．A．，gives us an amus－ ing short story．Other contributors are Miss G．Law－ ler，M．A．，Miss Grace Evans，Carr，＇98，and a number of undergraduates，especially of the class of＇ 99 ，who modestly sign only their initials．The Business Man－ ager，Miss Patterson，＇99，and her assistants，also de－ serve great praise．

Miss Helen Johnston，B．A．，＇98，and Miss Janey Pearce，B．A．，also of＇ 98 ，were in the city during Christ－ mas week．

Miss Alice Rosebrough，B．A．，＇95，who has been teaching in Little Falls，N．Y．，since September，spent her vacation in Toronto．

Miss Esther de Beauregarde，B．A．，＇95，now on the High School staff in Niagara Falls，N．Y．，was also in the city during the holidays．

I am sure every girl in College will join me in an expression of sympathy to Miss Sullivan，of the lourth Year，in her very sad loss．

In passing the Gymnasium one day during vaca－ tion，I noticed on the campus sundry preparations which would indicate that if the weather man proves
true to his promise of a severe true to his promise of a severe winter，we may expect a skating rink at Varsity this year．

Last year several of the College girls took ad－ vantage of the skating at Victoria College，but a rink in our own back yard－so to speak－will surely tempt many more to indulge in that splendid exercise．One feels a certain delicacy about making suggestions to people who are wiser than one＇s self in many ways，but 1 would like to say that，in my opinion，there would be fewer cases of collapse in the Spring if more of the girls would take regular and systematic exercise－ skating will give this．

Let us have a large number of the College girls on the rink this winter－if only for an hour each day．

Note：－Tickets for the rink may be obtained from Miss Salter．

Don＇t forget the Women＇s Literary Society meet－ ing next Saturday night．A splendid programme has been arranged．

# The News 

## THE CONVERSAT, IEEB. IOTH.

The Executive of the Literary and Scientific Society met on Monday last, and selected the following excellent committees to take charge of our annual Conversazione, which will be held four weeks from to-night, Feb. Ioth. The intention at present is to hold a reception from 8.30 till 9.30 p.m., after that promenading and a splendid concert will provide enjoyment till 11 o'clock; and finally from then till "the wee sma' hours," everyone that can dance, or wants to learn. will do so.

The concert this year promises to excel anything yet attempted in that direction, for in addition to having local and undergraduate talent, the famous singer. Madame Trebelli, will probably be engaged.

The following is the list of the committees appointed to manage the Conversazione. The list will be submitted to the Literary Socicty next Friday evening for confirmation:

Chairman-l'resident S. M. Wickett, P.H.I.; Secretary, F. E. Brown, 'oo; Treasurer. J. Machay, 99.

Finance Committee-Chairman, J. MacKay, Chairmen of other committees.

Refreshment Committee-Chairman, ————; '99, H. W. MacLean, J. H. F. Fisher, W. A. Groves; 'oo, J. F. Stewart, E. H. (). Watson; © O, N. Shenstone, A. Whelihan; 'oz, E. Mackenzie; S.P.S., W. Boyd.

Reception-Chairman, T. A. Russell: 99, F. W. Anderson, E. N. Armour, S. A. Dickson, V. E. Henderson; 'oo, D. E. Kilgour, A. N. W. Clare, P. Greig; ooi, E. J. Kylie, T. Il. Wood, R. B. Smilie; 'oz, P. Biggs, A. J. Hills; S.J.S., E. Yeates, J. T. R. Burnside.

Printing-Chairman, W. H. Alexander; 99, W. A. R. Kerr, R. (i. Hunter, F. D. McEntee, R. H. Patterson; 'oo, W. Emslie, R. Mitchell, E. P' Flintoft, Ritchie; 'oı, M. A. Buchanan, P. A. Carson; ©oz, Cunniugham, J. (. Mackintosh: S.P.S., E. Neelands, T. Slianks.

Decoration--Chairman, W. F. Mackay: '99, G. Gibson, W. Douglas; 'oo, C. R. Fitzgerald, C. V'. Dyment, E. H. Cooper, G. F. Kay; 'oi, E. P. Brown, H. M. Deroche, G. A. Hackney, E. F. Burton, J. E. Wetherell, C. E. Rowland; 'O2, Walker, Morris, McCrae, R. M. Stewart, I. Woods, A. Martin.

Invitation-Chairman, R. V. LeSeur: '99, A. MacDougall, A. L. Burch, I). McDougall, E. A. Cleary: 'oo, W. G. Harrison, A. N. Mitchell, H. Lang; 'or, R. A. Cassidy, A. F. Aylesworth; '02, A. W. Mackenzie; S.P.S., D. A. Ross.

Programme-Chairman, J. Monds; '99, W. A. Sadler, H. E. Abraham, J. L. Hogg; 'on, H. D. Graham, R. Telford; 'oi, G. F. MacFarland; 'o2, E. Hardy, W. C. Klotz; S.P.S., W. W. Beardmore.

## SESAME, '99.

The Editor-in-Chief, Miss Benson, Miss Patterson, the Business Manager, and their able assistants, are to be heartily congratulated on the literary and financial
success of Sesame for '99. In the latter respect, we have been assured that what is usually the short-end verlapped well, and that Miss Patterson's energen and fatthful work has been well rewarded.

From a literary standpoint, Sesame merits the highest commendation. Miss Benson has evidently demanded a high standard and maintained it. But what is especially gratifying is, that fully twice as many of the essays, stories and poems contributed, are the work of the undergraduates. The poetry is especially goocl, but it would be invidious to make distinction in so cursory a review as lack of space forces this to be. We can only say that every undergraduate should have a copy of Sesamc, for it is certain to prove very interesting reading.

The Editors may rest content, and feel satisfied with their work, which is a credit both to the women undergraduates and the University.

## THE RINKS.

Last year there was general regret expressed because the Hockey Club or Athletic Association did not feel able to undertake the buikding of a rink, but this year the Executive of the former body, with commendabie enterprise, has had built two rinks-one for skating only, and the other for hockey.

The skating-rink lies directly to the north of the "Quad.," and is 324 feet long, by 70 feer wide. It is flanked on the south side by a comfortable little house, in which the skaters can put on and take off their skates.

The hockey rink is 172 feet long, by go feet wide, and lies to the north-east of the skating rink. Here the Senior team will practice every night in the week but one, when they will go to Mutual street rink. The Hockey Club, however, are offering special inducements to year teams to practice there. Fifteen tickets can be obtained for twenty-five dollars, for any such club, and special hours for practice may be reserved.

The intention at present is to bring the Inter-Year Hockey Matches on very soon, and everything points to the game being very popular this year, since there is now available such a splendid rink. It would not be at all surprising if the Inter-Year Hockey Series would become as interesting as the Mulock Cup Series, especially if the Freshmen again seem to be winning.

This year competent men are in charge of the rinks, and good ice is assured. The tickets will be sold at the very reasonable price of one dollar, and may be obtained from the Janitor or any member of the Committee at the Gymnasium. Two years ago the rink was very popular with the women undergraduates, in spite of the fact that hockey interfered with the pleasure of skating. Now, however, there is a rink for skating only, and in all probability the latter will become quite an enjoyable social rendezvous, as it did two years ago, when the advantages of co-education were strikingly illustrated.

## SATURDAY LECTURES, 1899.

The popular course of Saturday lectures is now announced, and the first of a most interesting series will be delivered next Saturday, January 14th, by Frederick Coate Wade, Esq., B.A., Q.C., of Wimnipeg. The subject will be "The Klondike," and it is said will be illustrated by some very fine lantern views.

A departure is being made this year from the usual custom of opening the doors to the public without charge, and this year the Woman's Residence Association, with commendable enterprise, have secured the privilege of charging a moderate fee for admission. They offer the whole course of seven lectures for one dollar and a half, or single lectures for twenty-five cents.

It is to be hoped that both the undergraduates and the large public who patronized these very popular lectures of last year, will do so again this year, and help in the worthy cause of putting the Woman's Residence Association in a better financial condition.

The lectures will be delivered in the Chemical Building at 3 o'clock p.m.

The following is the Programme of Lectures and it promises well for the success of the series:

January 14th.-"The Klondike," with lantern illustrations. By Frederick Coate Wade, Esq., B.A., Q.C., of Winnipeg, Man.

Jannary 2Ist.--"With the American Land Forces in Cuba," with lantern illustrations. By John A. Ewan, Esq., War Correspondent.

January 28th.-"Hicroglyphics, Ancient and Modern," with lantern illustrations. By Sam Hunter, Esc., Caricaturist.

February 4th.-"Our Salmon and Salmon Fisheries," with lantern illustrations. By Professor Edward E. Prince, Dominion Commissioner of Fisheries, Ottawa.

February 11th.--"Some Oxford Types. By Professor Hutton.

February I8th.-"Some Types of Rural French Canada." By Dr. W. H. Drummond, Author of "The Habitant."

February 25th.—"The Seasons in India," with lantern illustrations. By Dr. R. D. Rudolf.

The lectures will be delivered in the Chemical Building, at 3 o'clock p.m., and tickets for the course may be obtained from Wm. Tyrell \& Co., King street. or from the Registrar.

## DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

The Dramatic Society has met with every encouragement in its work, and the probabilities at present are for a splendid season next year. In all likelihood, an original comedy, dealing with University life, will be presented next Hallowe'en, and Varsity students will be treated to this welcome innovation.

It is intended to hold a meeting very soon to elect officers and to place the society on a constitutional basis, before going further.

Mr. McEntee deserves great credit for the energetic way in which he has urged the formation of the society and the production of a play by the undergraduates, and it is to be hoped that the latter will give the Dramatic Society every support, especially now, since the Glee Club has suspended operations.

Professor Ramsay Wright delivered a lecture at Port Elgin, during the holidays, as one of the University extension series.

Park Bros., Yonge Street, have the contract for making the photo of the Graduating Class of ' 99.

## Y.M.C.A.

On Sunday aftemoon, January 15 th, at three $o^{\circ}$ clock, in the Students' Union, an address to the students of the University will be given by Professor Dyson Hague. This sermon is given under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association, and it is hoped that every student will be present to hear Professor Hague, who is a thoughtful speaker, and always appreciated by student autiences.

The Bible Class will not meet next Sunclay, but will resume study with Dr. Sheraton on January 22 nd.

The Ladies' Glee Club purposed having a dance shortly, but were reluctantly forced to give up the idea.

## UNIVERSTTY GYMNASIUM.

Special advantages are being secured for members of the Gymnasium cluring the coming term. The Bowling Alley has been furnished for a fencing room, so that not only will the fencing class have better accommorlation, but no interference with ordinary work in the Cymmasium proper will be necessary. In order to enable all students to have the advantages of the Gymnasium, cluring the hard work of the coming term, the fee till the end of May has been placed at three dollars.

## GRENVILLE KLEISER ENTERTAINMENT.

Grenville Kleiser has offered to give an entertainment, at nominal prices, to the students of Toronto University. It is not often that we get such an opportunity to hear a talented elocutionist, anl Mr. Kleiser's generous offer will, doubtless, as on former occasions, be much appreciated by the student body.

## OBITUARY.

On the last day of 1898 , Mr. Thomas Kirkland, M.A., 187I, one of the old graduate of the University, died very suddenly from heart failure. His death will be heard of with regret by his many graduate friends, and by any of the undergraduates who have taken a course at the Normal School, Toronto, of which he has for many years been principal.

The many undergraduates and graduate friends of the late Mr. Arthur Boddy, have, no doubt, heard of his sad death from pneumonia several weeks ago; but The Varsity would like to express, on behalf of his many friends at the University, the deep feeling of respect in which he was held by all who knew him.

Mr. Boddy took two years at Varsity before deciding to study Divinity at Trinity, and during that time became popular with the present Third and Fourth Years. The Varsity extends to the Rev. Archdeacon Eoddy and family its deep sympathy, and also to Trinity University, who has lost a popular and faithful student.

## Clye Maxさaity

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Toronto, January if, i899.

## THE COLLEGE JOURNAL.

With this issue, the incoming Editor, with more of trepidation than of delectation, enters on his new duties. The fear is suggested by a certain responsibility we feel, and a doubt as to our capacity to maintain that high standard of excellence demanded of the organ of such a University as our Alma Mater. However, it will always be our earnest endeavor to lay before the readers of The Varsity, each week, a literary repast with enough variety to satisfy the desires of all.

We think it opportune, with this issue, to present the plan we intend to adopt this term in the publication of this journal. Each week we hope to publish at least one essay or short story by an undergraduate, and also one article by some prominent man or well-known graduate, on a subject of general interest. The "College Girl," "School of Science Notes," "Athletics," and "Rotunda," will be continued as heretofore, but we intend to add a column, entitled "In Lighter Vein," dealing with the brighter side of University life, anecdotal or otherwise. The intention at present is to publish the news, in the form of comments. These will be presented in paragraphs of greater or less length, as the importance of the subject demands.

An examination of the various College publications in Canada, and also on the other side, will show that their columns are almost wholly occupied with articles supplied by contributors other than undergraduates. Now, we do not wish to depreciate this as an important and valuable consideration, but we do believe that a great deal of space should be reserved for the publication of the literary endeavors of the undergraduates. If the latter would consider for a moment the great opportunity they have of reaching a wide and literary field, through the columns of The Varsity, they would doubtless contribute more liberally.

We sincerely hope that the undergraduates will contribute freely, essays, stories, and poetry, and providing these reach that standard demanded of a Univer-
sity journal, they will be gladly published. In this connection we especially ask the women undergraduates to write for The Varsity. That they are capable of producing good essays, stories and poems can be readily seen by taking a glance at Sesame for'99. The literary work in the latter is splendid, and we hope that more contributions will be forthcoming from this source. We would point out, however, that the identity of the author must be known to the Editor, although a psendonym be used, but we ask all contributors to consider twice, or thrice, before using a nom de plume in preference to their own name.

In conclusion, we would have it known that the columns of The Varsity are always open for the discussion of subjects of general interest, providing such be free from personalities, and that argument do not degenerate into invective. To insure publication in the next issue, all "copy" should be left with the Janitor before twelve o'clock Monday.

## GREETING.

With the death of the Old Year and the birth of the New, come invariably those good resolutions for a change of conduct, and a reaching out towards that hazy ideal of life, which few of us have not, and towards which all of us, with more or less earnestness, are striving to attain.

In the hurry of this irreverent utilitarian age, we seldom stop for a moment to submit ourselves to even a cursory introspection. The latter may degenerate into egotism, it is true, but it need not, and if we follow the advice of a well-known proverb, we will more and more "learn to know ourselves," by stopping to think even for a moment. And of all periods in the year, whether from the dictates of a time-honored custom, of the uneasiness of a squeamish conscience, we spend a few moments New Year's morning in introspection and piling up our good resolves. Thus it is that we all have probably returned to Varsity with our full complement of the best resolutions.

We have doubtless taken solemn oaths that the midnight oil or gas would burn every night without cessation, that we would attend every lecture, and carefully cherish and make the best of every moment of the tide of time, on whose crest we are being relentlessly hurried towards the rocks and quicksands of May.

The Varsity hopes, however, that such rash resolutions will not be too faithfully carried out, and that enough relaxation and recreation will be indulged in to add zest and vigor to the work.

To the members of the First, Second and Third Years, and to those of the final year, who have but a few more months before graduation, The Varsity extends its best wishes for every success, prosperity and happiness in 1899.

## RESULTS OF THE UNIVERSITY DINNER.

Although Christmas and New Year's dimers have intervened since the University Dimner, the memory of the latter has probably not yet been lost in all regards, though probably it was eclipsed in one. And before it is too late, we would like to consider and record several results of the experience of this year.

It has, we believe, been generally agreed that the Dinner was a marked success, except in one wellknown respect, and, that was an occurrence over which the Dinner Committee had no control. But in all other regards, in the hearing of splendid speeches-the words of encouragement and advice-from many prominent men, both Faculty, graduates, and otherwise, in the mere social enjoyment of mingling with the Faculty, graduates and undergraduates, in all these directions, we feel sure every man who was fortunate enough to have been there will bear the most pleasant and satisfying recollections of the evening.

The Dinner was such a success this year that in all probability it will now be an annual function, and we heartily endorse Professor Wright's suggestion that it be so recognized by the Council, and the date on which it will be held recorded in the Calendar. By this means the Dimner would be insured of its deserved precedence over all our social functions, and First Year men to those of the Fourth Year would keep open and anticipate this one night above all others.

There is another suggestion in connection with the Dimer, emanating from the same source, that we wish to heartily endorse, namely: That those faculties. which unite to form the most integral part or nucleus of the University of Toronto should combine their Annual Dinners, and join to form one immense Banqutet. This would include the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Medicine, and the School of Practical Science.

At such a Dinner would sit down together practically the whole Faculty of the University of Toronto, and also the undergraduates, in the three Faculties mentioned above. Such an annual reunion would, we feel, be heartily endorsed by the Arts students; and the whole difficulty would be to have the Medical and S.P.S. students forego their long-established functions. This, we believe, can only be quickly accomplished by the members of the three Faculties agreeing to the proposal, and bringing it before their respective student bodies; and also in the Arts Faculty taking the initiative in this matter.

In conclusion, on behalf of the Undergraduate Committee and undergraduates, we wish to thank the Faculty Committee for their valuable advice and assistance, and earnest work in helping to make the Dinner a social and financial success; and also to add the hope that the Dinner may continue each year to grow in favor with Faculty and undergraduates.

## Athletics

## Resume.-

Last year was a very successful one in University athletics, and several advances of a permanent kind were made. The aspirations of the Hockey Club) met with an untimely end, for which luck and the Christmas holidays were largely to blame. The Lacrosse Club had the most successful season in its history. The attendance at practices was larger than ever. The Club again won the Inter-Collegiate Championship of America, which it has held for some years. Baseball and cricket were each followed by a larger number of participants than usual, and both had very good success in the games played. Paterson, a member of the Varsity Tennis Club, won the Junio: Championship of Canada, and the Intermediate team held the City Championship. The youngest of the athletic clubs at that time, the Rowing Club, did not place any victories to its credit, but much work of a solid preparatory kind was done. Very carly in the Fall another was added to the list of clubs, namely, the Ciolf Club. It is a very welcome addition, for it will probably draw the Faculty into closer touch with the students. Lastly, I have to refer to the successes which loom largest in our minds. The Rugby season was the most successful and phenomonal season on record. There were at least 70 candidates for the three teams, and we won two championships. The Association Series was also exceedingly satisfactory and encouraging.

## Tite Athletic Board.-

To my mind, we made, this Fall, two great steps in our Athletic development. The first and most important of these was the appearance of Faculty control in our Athletics. For some time there has been an uneasy and disquicting feeling amongst the members of all our Athletic Clubs, that the finances were not handled in a business-like manner. Consequently, we all ought to receive with approval, the first regulation of the Senate, which requires that books of all clubs or societies, bearing the University name, undergo an official audit by the Bursar. The second regulation, by which the control of all the University property used for Athletic purposes was put into the hands of an Athletic Board, which was then created. This Athletic Poard consists of three members of the Faculty, and three of the Athletic Directorate. They have the care and disposal of all Athletic grounds. The revente which was derived this year from the new Athletic field will be devoted to its improvement. This is a great step in the right direction, but it does not go quite far enough. It should have the power to prevent any Athletic Club from using the University name or grounds, except such as should receive its annual sanction. Any club, then, which tended to offend in any way against true and pure sport, or which got into financial difficulties, could be kept under control. In course of time, its power should be extended, till it controlled the finances of all Athletic Clubs.

## The State of Fiefd Sports.-

I. The Athletic Association lost $\$ 150$ on the games this year. 2. The attendance was smaller than for several years. 3. The interest was less than it has ever
been. 4. The competition was poor. These are four pretty black facts out of which to construct our second step in Athletic development. The old proverb says: "It is ever darkest before the dawn," and I think that this will prove true in this case also. The first result, and one that I was sincercly glad to see, was that the Athletic Directorate and those who had carefully thought out the matter, saw that they were actually harming Athletics by attempting to attract men to run by the apparent value of the prizes. To the true athlete, the prize is merely a memento, the actual winning, with its honor, the end for which he strove. A further result was that it became widely acknowledged that some new plan must be tried to revive the interest that ought to be taken in field sports. Our ideas at once ran to some form of Inter-Collegiate sports. The first suggestion was that they should be Inter-University sports; that each Faculty and College in this great Iniversity of ours should be represented by a team. This, however, would tend to have the minfortunate result of increasing the rivalry between these divisions. The other plan was naturally to make it Inter-Collegiate, and the Athletic Association, at the suggestion of McGill, is now working for this end. If we are successful, the Inter-Collegiate ganes will probably be held next Fall at McGill, and our own games will be largely of a preparatory mature. Actual calculations show that in all probability it would cost the Athletic Association no more to carry this plan through than they expended over the games this Fall.

## The Hockey Clab.--

Mr. Jennings presented a handsome cup to the School of Science, a week or two previous to the holiclays, and the Scientists, good sports that they are, have placed it at the disposal of the Hockey Club to be competed for after the manner of the Mulock Cup. About I3 teams are expected to enter, and a series will be drawn up in a few days. The intention is to have the games started as soon as possible, to give the Hockey Club a chance to pick up any good men that may be drawn out in this way. With a rink of their own, plenty of good material, and this series to bring men out, the Hockey Club ought to have the most prosperous season in its history. The thanks of the whole University are dte to Mr. Jennings for his handsome gift, and to the School of Scicnce for their action. Let us hope that they may win it. I think that the thanks of all are also due to H. F. Gooderham, the President of the Hockey Club, and its Executive, for financing the rink. Each of us ought to do our best to make it a success financially.

## THIS WEEK'S VARSITY.

We publish, this week, what will, no doubt, prove a most interesting essay, by J. B. Hunter. '99, on "Jerome K. Jerome." This was so well received at a meeting of the Modern Language Club, that we asked Mr. Hunter to rewrite it, and put it in suitable form for The Varsity. We intended to publish an article by a prominent graduate on "Specialization," but the crush of news compelled us to carry it over till the next issue.

## In Lighter Vein

## SOME DREAMS.

Last Christmas I was thoughtless enough to eat my dimner about six o'clock, and of course was forced to indulge freely in those indispensable accessories to a proper and seasonable dinner-plum-pudding and Christmas cake.

About eleven o'clock I retired, "perchance to sleep, perchance to dream." But in truth I don't think there was the least element of chance about it, for I think, from the first, I was destined to dream. Before going to sleep, or attempting to do so, I distinctly remember thinking abont several well-known men of the Senior Year, and going over in my mind their foibles, characteristics and achievements, but what I then thought was as nothing compared with what I had vividly shown me in the cincmatographic pictures of a plum-pudding-Christmas-cake dream.

The dreams had been so vivid that when I awoke in the morning, I distinctly remembered the whole occurrence in all its details, and I determined to write them for The Varsity. Perhaps the Editor will not publish them, but if he does I shall probably use that as an excuse for indulging in more cake, in the hope of secing more of my friends under such interesting and truthful circumstances.

> Dream I.
"Undoubtedly Alec. McDougall," I remember thinking, when this first figure appeared, but the surroundings seemed so unappropriate, that I could hardly believe my eyes. However, his countenance was very natural. One could not mistake that determined set of the jaws, that open smile bespeaking a soul too full for uttcrance, and those keen, bright eyes, flashing, as the old song says, "to men and maidens all."

But-and this is what I could not understandthis person was sitting in a small room, about six by six, at a large table, simply piled with mathematical treatises, conic sections, triangles, spheres, cubes, and all kinds of mathenatical apparatus. His back was bent like a bow, and his beaniing face, as described above, was seen peering through the mass of scientific debris to the right, to the left, and in front of him. Just then his head flew back and his face broke into a terrific smile, the charm was lost in an instant, and he flew from my sight.

In a moment he reappeared, or partially so, at the bottom of a heap of men, dressed a la Rugby mode. Then there was a scrimmage, Alec. secured the ball, and just as he had reached the line, the scene changed, and I found him holding forth on the dais of a large hall, that looked more like Victoria College Chapel than any with which I was acquainted. He evidently soon got tired of this, for in an instant he had been transplanted to a lawyer's office down-town. Just as he was leaving, he took out a card and wrote on it: "McGregor Young, call with cab, 4.15"-(evidently canvassing for the Lit--elections).

Last scene of all found him walking on some street arm-in-arm with a friend. I watched them for a minute, but presently I seemed to grow dizzya dimness grew over my senses, and they faded from my sight.

The Little Joker.


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 Engineering Society was held on Wednesday, December 2ist, Mr. Shanks in the chair. Prof. Coleman read a very interesting and instructive paper on "The Copper Deposits on the North Shore of Lake Huron and Superion," and Mr. Stovel gave some very useful hints to prospectors.

After the mecting of the Engineering Society, a very enthusiastic mass meeting of the students was held, to see about organizing a drill corps, when the following committee was elected: Professor Ellis, Mr. Wright, Mr. Duff, Mr. Carter, Mr. Perry, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Denison.

We are glad to see that Mr. Arclagh is able to return, after his painful accident of last term.

Mr. George Richardson, '88, was in town for Christmas.

We are glad to see that Thrift Burnside has quite recovered from his injury, and felt able to go South (to New York), for a "little rest," during the holiday.
"Cam." McArthur, of Rugby, hockey, and general athletic fame, returned from Rossland, to spend Christmas in a civilized country.

## AT A FIRST YEAR LECTURE.

It was at a First Year lecture in Biology, some time ago, that the following comedy was enacted: The Prof. had led his large class of Arts, women and men, and. First Year Meds., to the point where he was to describe the skeletal structure of the higher vertebrates. To facilitate his description, he hung up a large diagram of the skeleton of a horse. This evidently appealed to the domestic recollections of a certain embryo Medico., for he at once loudly gave that pectuliar guttural sound, which one hears a teamster use to urge, on his horses, and is equivalent to "gee up! gee up!"

This interruption was the signal for a perfect howl of laughter from the remaining two hundred and fifty students. At first, the Professor became extremely angry, his face flushed, and a deep frown furrowed his forehead, so that I expected a terrific storm to burst. But no! with an unmistakable effort he recovered him-sclf-a smile swept away every trace of anger, and the Professor, in a pleasantly sarcastic tone, said:
"I-I am very glad, indeed, that that young gentleman has the intclligchuce to recognize a horse."

- An amusing story is told of a certain well-known divine at the Dinner in December last. The waiter had cither taken a dislike to him or was not responsible for the scarcity of food. However, the clergyman did not get any of the delicacies glowingly described in the Menn on Francaise, until the waiter placed some ice cream before him. The good-natured divine, however, laughed heartily, and enquired of an eminent doctor next him, "Is it safe to eat ice cream on an empty
stomach?", stomach?"

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EDUCATION
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## DECEMBER-

I. Last day for appointment of School Auditors by Public and Separate School Trustees. IP.S. Act. sec. 21 (1); S.S. Act, sec. 28 (5).] (On or before ast Dec.) Municipal Clerk to transmit to County Inspector statement showing whether or not any county rate for Public School purposes has been placed upon Collector's roll against any Separate School supporter. P.S. Act, sec. 68 (1) ; S.S. Act, sec. 50 」
(Not later than Ist Dec.)
5 County Model Schools Examinations begin. (During the last week of the session.)
6. Practical Examinations at Provincial Normal Schools begin. (Subject to appointment.)
13. Returning Officers named by resolution of Public School Board [P.S. Act, sec. 57 (2).] (Before $2 n d$ Wednesday in Dec.)
Last day for Public and Separate School Trustees to fix places for nomination of Trustees. [P.S. Act, sec. 57 (2); S.S. Act, sec. 3 (5).] (Bejore $2 n d$ Wednesday in Dec.)
14. Local Assessment to be paid Separate School Trus tees. [S.S. Act, sec. 55.] (Not later than $\mathrm{I}_{4}$ th Dec.) Written Examinations at Provincial Normal Written Examinations at Provincial
Schools begin. (Subject to appointment.)
15. Municipal Council to pay Secretary-Treasurer Public School Boards all sums levied and collected in township. [P.S. Act, sec. 67 (1).] (On or before 15 th Dec.)
County Councils to pay Treasurer High Schools. [H.S. Act, sec. 30.] (On or before $15 t h$ Dec.) County Model School term ends. Reg. 58. (Close on 15th day of Dec.)

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## University of Toronto....

## Michaelmas Term

October lst to December 23rd

## The Rotunda

John McKay spent Christmas at his home in Lucknow.
A. N. Mitchell has returned to Varsity eager for work after a good time at Enniskillen.
J. H. F. Fisher was found several times haunting the Library of the Parliament Buildings during the holidays.

The Natural Science men from the first year to the fourth, as is their custom, reported for work bright and early at 9 a.m., Monday.
"Billy" Douglas says that although city life is not altogether conducive to original research in P.S., he hopes to make it so before many moons.

The Gymnasium fee has been reduced to three dollars till the end of the academic year, which low price ought to induce many to join.

The energetic secretary of the Lit., "Dick" Lesuer, tore his affections away from his native town of Sarnia and returned on Monday.
" Billy" Dakin, while skating on the streamlet that runs through his native town of Galt, says that something broke and he was reluctantly compelled "to take to water."
F. D. McEntee spent the holidays in his room nursing a very severe cold. "Mac" is all right again, however.

It was rumored around the Rotunda on Monday that someone had said that " Billy" Stratton had worked an hour a day during the holidays.
W. A. Sadler had an attack of that very fashionable disease "grip," but we are glad to say he is all right again.
D. E. Kilgour spent Christmas in Guelph.
"Lexie" Isbeter has returned from Ottawa ready for work (and hockey).
"Art" Snell divided his affections between hockey and "home" at Bolton, and has returned ready to captain Varsity to victory.
"Billy" Kerr, during the holidays, added the spice of a little work to his well-earned rest after his trials and tribulations of last fall.
A. W. Keith was seen back to work early Monday.
"Tommy" Russel and Lorn Allan hung up their stockings together at the former's home in Exeter, and report poor roads in that part of the country.
"Bob" Mullin enjoyed his Christmas in his native town of Hamilton as best he could, which is saying a good deal.

Adams, 'oo, spent Christmas at his home in Whitby.

The many friends of John Gibson, oo, will deeply sympathize with him in the loss of his father during the holidays.
John R. Bone reports a quiet time of studious endeavor at his home in Wingham, despite the many distractions of a metropolis.
B. E. Thackery, '99, took a good rest at home during the holidays to prepare for the hard work which he says he intends to do.
The rinks are all under full swing and many have bought tickets, which are but one dollar.
A great many men report having had their holidays spoiled, or almost su, by the "Grip," which seems to be very prevalent all over the Province.
W. L. McKenzie King, B.A., '95, spent Christmas at home in Toronto. He is one of Varsity's graduates who is doing splendid work at Harvard University in Political Economy.
"Billy" Alexander successfully withstood the many temptations to go home and enjoy the gaiety of Ottawa for Christmas, and left that in charge of "Alec" McDougall, who reports a good time.


THERE are few national institutions of more value and interest to the country than the Royal Military Colege at Kingston. At the same time its object and the work it is accomplishing are not sufficiently understood by the general public.
Tarily for marily for the purpose of siving the highest technical in and officers of Canadian Militia. In fact it is intended to take the place in Canada of the English Woolwich and Sandnurst and the American West Point.
The Commandant and military instructors are all officers on the active list of the Imperial army, lent for the purpose, and in addition there is a complete staff of professors for the civil subjects which form such a large proportion of the College course.
Whilst the College is organized on a strictly military basis the cadets receive in addition to their military
studies a thoroughly pactical, scientific and sourd training in all subjects that are essential to a high and general modern ellucation.
The course in mathematics is very complete and a thorough grounding is given in the subjects of Civil Engineering, Civil and Hydrographic Surveying, Physics, Chemistry, French and English.
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For full particulars of this examination or for any other information, application should be made as early as possible to the Deputy Adjutant General of Militia, Ottawa, Ont.

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