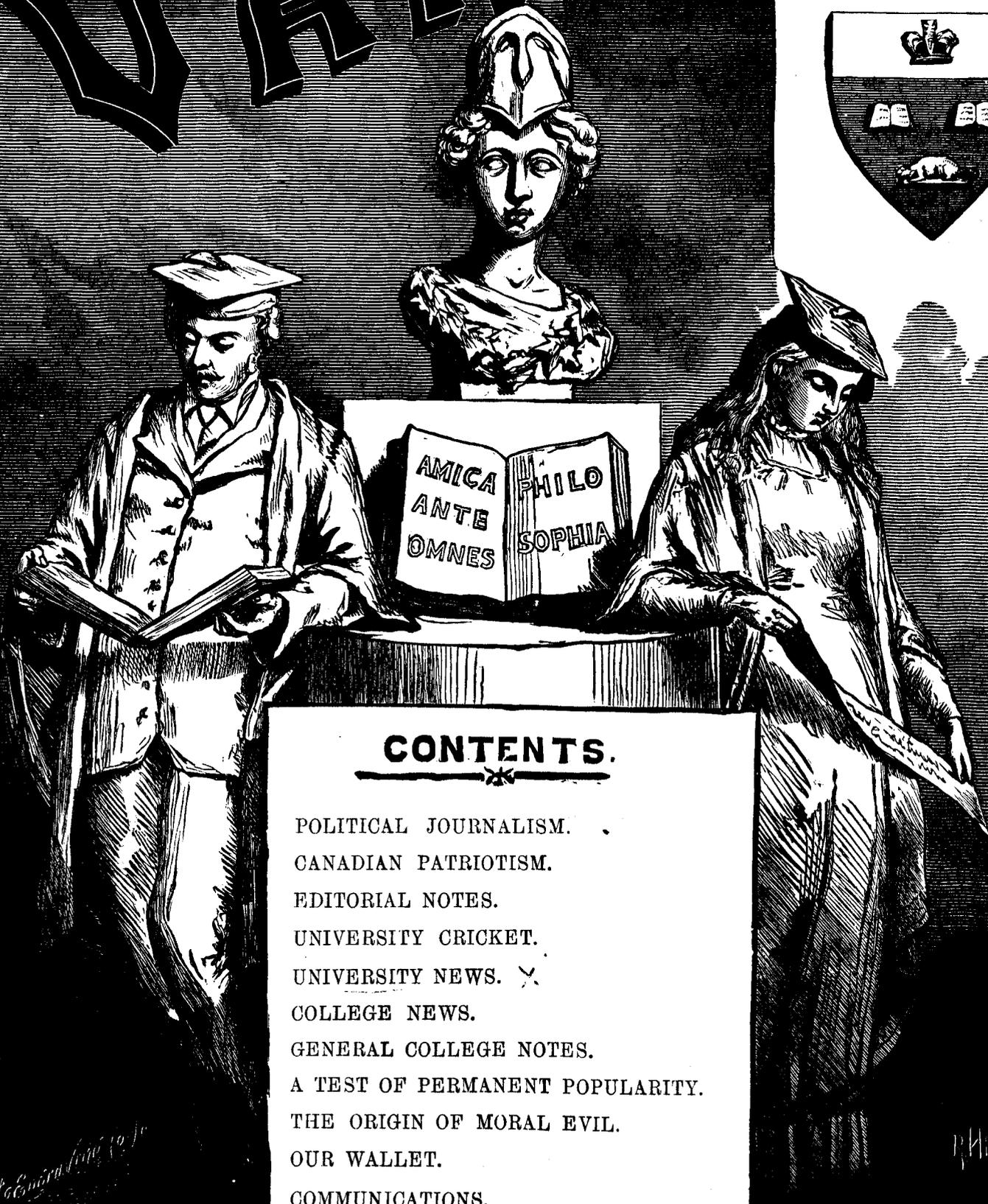


THE UNIVERSITY



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University of Toronto, March 29, 1884.

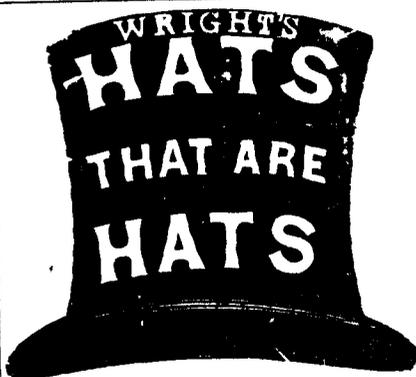
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POLITICAL JOURNALISM.

Party Government is a questionable good at best. Many are inclined to think it an evil incident to the frailty of human nature, but in either case most men have made up their minds that in the present condition of human politics it is a necessity. A party press is an indispensable requisite to a party government, and as long as there is a party press we must expect a one-sided discussion of political questions. The press of either side must take the position of an advocate and present an *ex parte* view of any issue.

We are prepared to acquiesce in all this—to bow to what we believe an evil, but still a necessary evil—but there is a limit beyond which party representation or *mis*-representation should not go.

It is patent to every candid mind that the party press of Ontario of both sides has gone far beyond that limit. This journal is happily far removed from the arena of political strife, and perhaps for that reason can look at the situation more dispassionately than those who are in the heat of the conflict.

We must say that the acrimony of our political journals is a disgrace to the intelligence and education of our people. Only in a low state of intelligence is vituperation accepted for sound argument, and bitter invective for the rigid logic of facts. The political press of this country must consider that the people are in this low state, for their readers are regaled with little else but logic of this kind.

We cannot attempt to go into detail in our criticism of the tone of our newspapers. Both sides in politics are guilty of excesses that are not creditable. The recent attempt at bribery in the Local Legislature has given a wide field for political malignity to manifest itself, and it has not been slow to do so. In all fairness, speaking of our two local dailies, we must say that one side is as bad as the other. One paper regales its readers with villainous wood-cuts of the alleged conspirators that would be a disgrace to the *Police Gazette*. The organ of the opposite side has not ventured into the field of pictorial illustrations, but its word pictures of some of its foes are unique for their savage vehemence. A man whom an intelligent electorate considered honorable enough to be their representative in Parliament, is accused of adultery, seduction, and finally murder, and the most extravagant charges are made against others of their opponents. A fair-minded man is driven into one of two conclusions,—the people of the country have either sunk to a very low and degraded moral status, or the statements of the newspapers are not true,—and we are inclined to think that the latter would be the more accurate conclusion.

It is time that such a disreputable type of journalism should receive a check. As newspapers our leading journals are a credit to the country; as political organs they are a disgrace, and the evil they do in the latter respect does not stop with them. Their tone is reflected in all the country papers, and the vehemence of the latter is coarser and more reckless just in proportion to the inferior intelligence of their readers. In the name of the English language, whose force such journalism tends to destroy, by using the strongest terms on the most ordinary occasions; in the name of the culture and refinement that should treat opponents like men and gentlemen; in the name of that ordinary charity which forbids such outrageous misrepresentation of fellow men, we protest against this style of journalism. It defeats its own purpose, for extravagant and

unproved assertion originates prejudice against it, and makes us look more favorably on the other side.

From the stand-point of a University journal we cannot but regret that the only way to success in political journalism seems to be by violent partyism. The press is supported by the people, and to a large extent reflects the popular mind. Its tone cannot be very far above or very far below that of the people, for in either case it would lose their support, and it cannot live without this. Must we conclude therefore that the type of journalism now prevalent is in accord with the moral and intellectual development of our people? If this conclusion is inevitable it cannot bring cheering reflections to those who are concerned about our educational progress.

If such journalism is the only kind that will be supported by our people, it is time to awake to the fact that their mental acuteness is not of a high order.

The solution of the whole question after all is in increased education of the people. An educated people would not submit for a moment to the type of journalism we now possess. Every effort should therefore be centred on this point—increased educational facilities. The unsatisfactory *finale* that, for the present, the movement for increased state aid to the University of Toronto has reached, is not reassuring. Mr. Gibson justly complained in the Legislature of the members' indifference to and ignorance of University matters. On arousing them and the people from their somnolency in these matters depends largely, in our opinion, the moral and political elevation of our people in the future. Meanwhile we cannot condemn too strongly the style of political journalism now prevalent. The deleterious effect upon the country cannot be over-estimated. What must outsiders think of our political morality when our own journals place it in such a bad light? The reality is bad enough, but it is not as bad as the party journals paint it. True patriotism calls for a more correct picture of our political ethics than is now being given.

CANADIAN PATRIOTISM.

A writer in the *Saturday Review*, speaking of the dispute between the Dominion Government and British Columbia in 1876, with reference to the threat of the latter to withdraw from the Confederation, uses the following expressions:—'Patriotism would suggest the expediency of maintaining the connexion, which is one of the conditions of the future greatness of Canada; but it is useless to appeal to Canadian ambition if it is not sufficiently active to prevail over petty motives and calculations.' Such a charge, coming from the *Saturday Review*, would carry great weight, even though it stood alone. But, unfortunately, it is not the only instance of like sentiments in English papers. Canadians do not usually regard themselves as unpatriotic; and, indeed, from the connexion in which the above remarks occur, it is evident that the writer bases his opinion on a view of our conduct as presented in the field of party politics. That this is not an infallible guide in estimating a nation's character, happily needs no proof. If, then, we assume that the writer means no more than that, judging from party tactics, we are more provincial than national, his words, we must admit, have much to justify them. With their truth or falsity in any other sense we are not now specially concerned. That provincialism should be a paramount factor in Canadian

...towards remedying difficulties which are caused by a constant friction between the provinces and the federal authorities. If the dividing line between their respective jurisdictions were more distinctly drawn there would be less fear of encroachment on either side, and Quebec and Manitoba would have less cause to dread that political Gargantua—the Dominion Government. But it is with the third cause that we as a College paper are more particularly concerned. For it is in the Universities and Colleges of Canada that we should naturally expect to see the first evidences of an awakening patriotism; since in their halls alone do we find Canadians exclusively. Elsewhere society is leavened with a foreign element, gradually, however, becoming absorbed in the rapidly increasing mass of Canadians.

By the last census the total population of Canada was estimated at close on 4,500,000. Of these nearly 4,000,000 are native born Canadians. The next generation will find the disproportion still greater, and Canadians will be the leading spirits everywhere; and as their influence increases, Canada's rapid progress as a nation will be the more assured. It is but natural that men who have made a new home in a distant country, should still regard their native land with a lingering tenderness which excludes that devotion to the soil of their adoption so essential to patriotism. But to their sons Canada is a native land. Their affections are undivided, and all their energies are devoted to advance its welfare. Our own University, which was not established on a national basis until 1849, is therefore educating but the second generation of its students. Of the rapid growth of a national spirit within our halls at least there can be no doubt. The next generation will probably show even a more marked degree of loyalty to Canada than the present, the more so if we shall then be under the guidance of our own professors.

It is as much the duty of a College to inspire its students with a lofty patriotism as it is to familiarize them with the increments of Greek verbs. The College that neglects this duty betrays the trust it has assumed as the trainer of men for filling high positions in after life. Before many years shall elapse all the chief places in the State, the church and the professions will be occupied by graduates of our different Universities, from whose gates diverge all the paths of ambition. The lines of honor prescribed by a College training will be the standard of professional ethics throughout the Dominion. The aspirations of to-day will be the parents of high designs in the future. Patriotism now means a new nation hereafter.

Canada has now reached the Pisgah of her history. Before her lies a future rich in promise. The way lies through the gates of her Colleges. Should the scheme of University confederation prove practicable in Ontario and ultimately be adopted in the other provinces, the above remarks will be still more applicable. But if Canadians forget, in wrangling over provincial quarrels, the calls which Canada has upon their patriotism, our fate as a nation is sealed. Step by step we have advanced to the goal of our destiny from the blunders of the Quebec Act to the broad constitutional principles laid down by the British North America Act of 1867, still more fully established by our Chancellor when Minister of Justice in 1876. There remains but one more step, and Canada takes her place among the nations of the world. It remains to be seen whether we shall prove ourselves worthy of the trust, or be content to display what the *Times* calls our

...the success of the Society next year, which must depend, to no small extent, on the presence of a President and Chairman possessing the respect and confidence of all the members. We congratulate Father Teefy on his election under such favorable auspices, and the Society on obtaining for next year his valuable services.

The Literary Society annual election last night presented no new features of any significance. There was the usual amount of excitement and noise, followed by the depression naturally to be expected after a night's hard work. The attendance was smaller than for some years, the number of voters having been considerably diminished by the change in regulations of this year. Election night has from time immemorial been set apart by undergraduates as an off-night, and its influence is not for evil. It is also looked upon by the majority as the period of the commencement of hard work for the College and University examinations.

Mr. McGillivray's letter on Co-Education we can recommend to a perusal, not solely because his views happen to agree with our own, but because he calmly attacks one or two of the strongest positions our opponents have taken, and with no slight force. He urges, reasonably, that those who have opposed Co-Education among us are the true friends of the furtherance of the higher education of women, and that the adoption of Co-Education is more calculated than anything else to indefinitely postpone the establishment of a Ladies' College such as young women will not hesitate to go to. We ask attention to the last part of Mr. McGillivray's letter, as corroborating our statement, since so vehemently attacked, that the statistics of many co-educationist College Presidents, in addition to being prejudiced, are founded on ignorance.

This issue contains a long letter from Mr. MacMechan, which gives some very sensible suggestions on the Modern Language question. In a former number a letter of the same gentleman, by reason of its very unfortunate ambiguity, led us to criticize views which we are glad to find are not his. We are much pleased to find from this present communication that the words of the first letter were intended to bear a meaning very different from that which appears on their face. Mr. MacMechan turns his attention to finding out what should be the real ends and objects of the training a University affords, and though agreeing with him in the main, there are some expressions of his opinion from which we are compelled to differ. For instance, he bases his arguments on a principle somewhat questionably expressed: i.e., that it is better to know a few things perfectly than to have a smattering of many. Here John Locke seems to us to have laid down the proper middle course in his oft-quoted dictum, 'an educated man should know everything about something and something about everything.' And we are unable to see why a shallow and general knowledge of many things, should stand in the way of a satisfactory and thorough acquaintance with a particular branch or branches. Space forbids us to review the letter in its entirety, but we commend its perusal to those interested in the question, as containing opinions carefully thought out and argued.

UNIVERSITY CRICKET.

THE 'VARSITY' editorial on University Cricket in the first issue for the present month was the means of stirring up a great deal of enthusiasm on the subject of this sport. This interest was intensified by one of the 'enthusiasts' of former seasons giving a few pointers to the committee as to the manner in which the season might be profitably lengthened. We are happy to say that the first, and most important, hint has been taken, and, in accordance with a notice on the bulletin-board, the annual meeting will be held on Tuesday afternoon, at four o'clock, in Moss Hall. (By the way, we may as well assure our readers that this is not a canard, even though it be on All Fools' day.)

The Cricket Club is the only University organization which continues operations through the long vacation and, as such, it is especially desirable that all students should become members, more particularly those who intend remaining in the city during that time. They would thereby, in default of anything else of the kind, have an opportunity of meeting their fellow-students in a friendly spirit of sport on a common ground—our beautiful lawn. Heretofore it has been found almost impossible to keep the game alive after the end of June; but now, with the largely-increased number of prominent players amongst the undergraduates, there should be comparatively a small amount of difficulty in arranging matches and practice games throughout the season and thus keep up the interest. Many of us remember the pertinent inquiry of Princess Louise whilst crossing the lawn, on the occasion of her last visit to Toronto: 'Where are the cricketers?' Our worthy President, who also happens to be President of the club, was compelled to answer: 'They are out of town to-day.' This was a lamentable state of affairs, a state which can only be altered by the strenuous exertions of the undergraduates generally. How the emotion of manly pride would have swelled the bosom of our President had he been able to say, 'The eleven are worthy of their *alma mater*, having won every match played this season.' The very mention of the word 'season' brings to our mind thoughts of the annual Inter-University match with Trinity in June. Last year the match was played on our ground, and the visitors were so pleased with the surroundings that several of them broached the question of making the contest an annual affair on our lawn. To make the game a fixture on our ground would imperatively necessitate more care being taken of the crease; and, as this seems to be one of the 'crying evils' of the past, whilst getting rid of this evil, we should be securing forever and a day the playing of our most important match on our own territory. This is a consideration well worthy of the attention of the next officers of the club.

As an evidence of the great interest taken in the game this early in the season, we may mention that a match will be played at an early date between elevens representing the 'inside' and 'outside' students respectively.

'Enthusiast' in his letter proposed a match with McGill; but, on making inquiries, we found that the McGill men leave college long before cricket is thought of in Montreal, and, in consequence, apart from any thought of their cricketing abilities, which we believe generally do not amount to much, they would be unable to muster any sort of a team when it would be most convenient for us to meet them. As Pennsylvania University had no less than five representatives on the last international team, it is extremely probable that, were our eleven to journey to Philadelphia, they could be accommodated with a game, and an inter-University one at that, too. We think, however, that this is a little beyond us at present, but there is no telling what may come to pass in the future.

We trust the undergraduates will turn out in strong force on Tuesday, and by their very presence make the success of the club a certainty. And, if we may be permitted, we must request the committee to allow no play on the lawn until the new grass gets a start. If care be not taken the appearance of the lawn may be marred for the remainder of the season, which would be very detrimental to the beauty of the surroundings of our grand building.

—V.

University News.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

At length the election night arrived, and the usual crowds began to assemble in the Society's rooms. Cab after cab brought up its load of eager, excited voters. Moss Hall gradually filled up with men and tobacco smoke. Canvassers actively button-holed shaky voters, and the Independents ('whom I,' says J. McQ. B., 'have the honor humbly to represent,') suddenly assumed an unaccountable popularity—for one night only.

Mr. Cronyn read his report as Secretary of Committee, and was followed by the Treasurer, Mr. R. J. Duff, who read his financial statement.

The President then, according to custom, formally declared Rev. Father Teefy, M.A., President of the Society for the coming year. Rev. Father Teefy, after the enthusiastic cheering had subsided, briefly responded, expressing ardent hopes for the success of the Society under his Presidency. (Cheers.)

Around the entrance to the polling booth surged the crowd, the 'Rugby teams' of each party exerting their utmost energy to secure the entrance of the supporters of their respective sides.

Occasionally a squabble of more than usual vigor would take place, and some unfortunate individual, like Tennyson's *Brook*, would 'make a sudden sally,' as he was 'fired out' by the opposing side.

About 12 o'clock many began to find it impossible to get in to vote without serious damage to their clothing, and to don their jerseys for a rough-and-tumble scramble. The list of casualties to men and garments was by no means small; some, on losing parts of their clothing, also lost their tempers; some few lost their votes. The stairs and passages leading to the polling booth were crowded with voters covered with glory—and sweat. The sick and diminutive undergraduates were allowed up the back stairs. The number of 'sick' voters increased rapidly when this fact became known.

The proceedings were enlivened by the presence of a number of Queen's Own men, who, doubtless to preserve order and decorum, lent their moral—and physical—support to the anxious electors patiently struggling to poll their votes. Charge after charge was gallantly made at close quarters, and as gallantly repulsed. Captain Brown manfully led up his heavy brigade, but Captain Little was not to be dislodged from the position in the corner.

In the hallway the whips of the different parties were actively engaged in their work. Rumors flew about as busily and frequently as the canvassers themselves,—and were about as wild.

The voting closed about 3.30 a.m., and the students made themselves as comfortable as circumstances would permit, awaiting the result. Of the proceedings of the next few hours we have no distinct recollection, but were at length aroused by demoniac yells, to find that the results were being announced. They were as follows:—

President	Rev. Father Teefy (by acclamation).
1st Vice-President	D. MacKay (casting vote).
2nd Vice-President	J. Graham; maj. 9.
3rd Vice-President	J. S. McLean; maj. 3.
Recording Secretary	M. S. Mercer; maj. 9.
Corresponding Secretary	F. H. Sykes; maj. 28.
Treasurer	D. J. MacMurchy; maj. 2.
Curator	A. B. Thompson; maj. 9.
X Secretary of Committees	(Election next October.)
Councillors:	
1. A. W. Stratton	177.
2. Colin Fraser	175.
3. W. P. Mustard	175.
4. R. A. Thompson	174.
5. R. Baldwin	167.

In the contest for the First Vice-Presidency, Messrs. Henderson and MacKay each polled the same number of votes,—168. This necessitated the President giving his casting vote, which he did in favor of Mr. MacKay, giving as his reason that at the meetings at which he (the President) had attended, Mr. MacKay had taken a more prominent part than his opponent; and also that the new President, Father Teefy, had been identified in the past with the party opposed to Mr. MacKay.

In regard to the election for the office of Secretary of Committees, Mr. Fère, one of the candidates, had never been formally declared a member of the Society, and was therefore disqualified for office. His opponent, Mr. Hodgins, was therefore declared elected, but immediately resigned, not wishing to take advantage of a technical objection. An election for this office will not, therefore, take place until next October.

The total vote cast was 336. The outside party secured a majority of four representatives on the Committee. After the usual cheers and speeches by the elected and defeated candidates, the members went home to a late breakfast.

Election night has come and gone, and has been characterized by a less bitter party spirit, fewer drunks, the usual personalities, howlings and uproar, but in considering the energy and excitement expended on the elections one may well doubt whether 'the game is worth the candle.'

As the evening wore on your reporter's usual lucid and luminous style deserted him. This must be an excuse for the rambling nature of the foregoing report.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Your Treasurer begs leave to submit the following financial statement for the year now closing:—

RECEIPTS.	
Balance from last year.....	\$349 07
Sale of periodicals.....	18 23
Conversazione surplus.....	98
Fees.....	95 00
Total.....	\$463 28

EXPENDITURE.	
Contract with Robertson for Reading Room supply.....	\$118 75
Grant to Glee Club.....	50 00
Sundries.....	280 91
Total.....	\$399 66
Balance on hand.....	\$ 68 57

All of which, &c.

R. J. DUFF, *Treasurer.*

Examined and found correct,
H. COLLINS, } *Auditors.*
JNO. KYLES, }

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

The usual weekly prayer-meeting of the Y. M. C. A. was held on Wednesday afternoon. Dr. Thomas, who was to have conducted the meeting, was unavoidably absent. After devotional exercises, the Rev. Dr. Welton, of McMaster Hall, addressed the meeting, taking as the basis of his remarks: 'Come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.' The following is a summary of the reverend gentleman's earnest and practical address.

These words of tender and sympathetic invitation follow words of denunciation of those who had made ill-use of enabled privileges. This shows the tenderness of Christ displayed even to the most undeserving and rebellious. So it is that God ever deals with man. His is the attitude of one who seeing and condemning the sin of His creatures says, 'Let us forget all the past of sinfulness and be reconciled, that fellowship and communion may be restored.' This invitation, which Jesus here addresses primarily to the Jews, who were groaning beneath a burden of useless and vain ceremonies, which made religion a drudgery, and then to all who are restless and dissatisfied in soul, has always been sounded in the ears of men—by the prophets, by Christ Himself and by His followers and servants. The invitation implies that man is at a distance from God—a distance which has been caused by sin. Man cannot bridge over by his own good deeds the gulf between himself and God. It is only bridged by the atonement of Christ, who here says: 'Come to Me. No rest is to be found in the world. You cannot obtain it by endeavors to keep God's law. You cannot find it even in a mere adhesion to creeds or in a nominal connection with the Church of Christ. Come to Me, the living Saviour, a person who can love and be loved.' The invitation is addressed to all who feel in any way their own insufficiency. Those who are weak, Christ strengthens,

those who are poor He enriches, to the sinful He gives righteousness, the hungry He feeds, to the weary He gives rest. In coming to Christ, we are not to seek to merit His love as a reward of our love to Him, but to believe that His love to us is strong, and deep and true. The unrest of the soul is caused by sin, and can only be removed by the taking away of its cause. Sin removed and harmony with God restored, our peace shall be like a river. It shall never fail, but ever increase until it becomes the everlasting rest of heaven.

MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETY.

At a meeting of the Mathematical and Physical Society of Toronto University, held on Tuesday evening last, Prof. Loudon delivered an interesting lecture on 'Regnault's Chronograph.' Mr. S. A. Henderson read a problem paper, containing some good solutions. The nomination of officers then took place, the election to come off at the next regular meeting of the society, which will be the last this term. Prof. J. Galbraith was re-elected President of the Society by acclamation.

QUICQUID AGUNT.

Examinations five weeks from Monday.
The Natural Science lectures have closed.
The Games Committee will meet Monday afternoon in Residence.
Mr. E. P. Davis, B.A., arrived in the city from Winnipeg yesterday.

The list of those entitled to vote at the Literary Society elections was posted up at the College entrance on Tuesday. There were 403 names.

A meeting of the Cricket Association is called for Tuesday, the first of April, at 4 o'clock, in Moss Hall. There should be a large attendance.

The Glee Club held a practice for the Galt and Guelph concerts Thursday afternoon; there was only an average attendance present. It is to be hoped that at the practices next week every one who is going will attend the rehearsals. The Club has received a letter from Galt, asking that, in order to reduce the expenditure, only thirteen go to that place instead of twenty, as originally intended. Professor Torrington is of the opinion that the Club this year has done nothing worthy of its past reputation, and hopes next year something of a higher class will be attempted.

ROTTEN ROW.

Residence loses two of its members next week. Messrs. Aylesworth and Fleury, not intending to pursue their course farther, will consequently not remain for the examinations.

The roof of the corridor is again becoming a favorite resort for study.

PERSONALS.

We notice in Dio Lewis' *Monthly Magazine* for this month, over the signature of T. Arnold Haultain, M.A., a short paper on 'Reminiscences of Burmah.' If our memory serves us, we can accuse Mr. Haultain of indolence in falling back on an essay which the Literary and Scientific Society once heard. However, it is a legitimate enough use of an article whose brilliancy should not allow it to remain idle.

Mr. J. H. Coyne, B. A., barrister, St. Thomas, has received the nomination as representative on the University Senate by the graduates of Middlesex and Elgin. The election is judiciously made, and his return would place a wise and prudent councillor on the Senate.

College News.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER.

DEAR VARSITY,—The great event of the past week was the Lent Races, which were rowed on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. The weather throughout was splendid, and altogether the races were most successful. The changed order of the boats at

the end of the week testified to the large number of 'bumps,' and the sounds of revelry in the different Colleges on Saturday night gave unmistakable evidence of the grand finales of Cambridge races—'bump suppers.'

The date of the Inter-Varsity sports has again been changed, and is now fixed at April 4th, the day before the boat race. The University eight have been practising steadily during the past week, and it is said that a marked improvement in their rowing is visible.

The writer of an amusing article entitled 'Series,' in the *Review* of this week, has found a new use for Mathematical language. He thinks it might be applied to every-day life, and that 'by a judicious arrangement we might represent in a single line the character of a man which it now takes a novelist his three volumes to explain.' He pitches for illustration upon "Series," as one of the most precious gems which are at present hidden from the public gaze, and, coming to the Binomial expansion, at once finds himself involved in 'the question of what happens when a man becomes a Binomial (*Anglice*, takes unto himself a wife), and, raising himself to the 20th power, becomes expanded in a series (produces a long line of descendants).' This question, however, he wisely leaves unanswered, and passes on to other illustrations no less amusing. He is sanguine enough to look forward to the time when 'a newspaper will have shrunk from its present size to that of a piece of note-paper, and will contain merely a few formulæ, the gist of which can be taken in at a glance between two mouthfuls of toast.'

On Saturday last Cambridge lost one of its most honored members, in the person of Dr. Todhunter, who died at the age of 63. He had been seriously ill for several weeks from an attack of paralysis of the brain. The funeral takes place to-morrow, when the first part of the service will be read in the chapel of his own College, St. John's, of which he was an Honorary Fellow.

Yours very truly,

Cambridge, March 5th, '84.

T. C. S. M.

General College Notes.

Sweden and Norway have 500 industrial art schools.

Base ball has entirely superseded foot ball at Amherst.

Queen's has a Snow-Shoe Club. The *Journal* complains justly of the want of a gymnasium.

Amherst is to have six billiard tables in the new gymnasium, which is to be ready for use in the spring.

A number of Yale students are thinking of making a tour of France, on foot, the coming vacation.—*Ex.*

The Seniors of Wabash College have adopted the sailor suit as a class dress, in which they will graduate.—*Ex.*

The total number of students at Oberlin is 1,474. This includes a preparatory and various other departments.

Bowdoin has a polo team. According to the *Orient*, the interest in polo circles is now at flood height.

Albert E. Kent, of San Francisco, Cal., has given \$75,000 to Yale College to be used for a chemical laboratory.

A Japanese student has been appointed to the important position of assistant to the professor of anatomy at the Berlin University.

'An alumna,' writing to the *Delaware College Review*, advocates the abolishing of co-education there, giving potent reasons for so doing.

The sum of \$12,500 has been given to Glasgow University by Mrs. John Elder, for the purpose of founding a professorship of naval architecture.—*Ex.*

It is found that there are now over 3,000,000 scholars of both sexes in the schools of Italy. This is the ninth part of the whole population of the kingdom.—*High-School Index.*

The Trustees of Dartmouth College lately voted to erect a library building at a cost of \$50,000. Funds for the immediate construction of a chapel were obtained yesterday from the Hon. E. Ashton Rollins, of Philadelphia.—*Scholastic.*

A census of a Philadelphia boarding school of forty-eight girls showed that one could make bread, one knew how to fry oysters, three knew how to broil beef steak, forty-eight could embroider and forty-seven could dance.—*University Press.*

At Wesleyan the faculty gives fortnightly receptions. A certain number of professors keep open house on one Saturday evening and the remainder alternate with them. This custom is said to be becoming quite popular among the students.—*Badger.*

Prof. M. W. Harrington, director of the Ann Arbor observatory, together with W. H. Barr, of Detroit, will publish a new monthly journal to be named the "American Meteorological Journal."

While there are dozens of papers published by the students of our American colleges, there is actually but a single periodical of the sort issued in Germany. This is the *Allgemeine Deutsche Studentenzeitung*, which appears weekly in Berlin. But even this is not intended exclusively as an undergraduate affair.—*Haverfordian.*

One of the most interesting and valuable features of the John Hopkins University library is the newspaper bureau. A trained editor and a staff of assistants read all the representative dailies and mark superior articles upon economic, political, social, educational, legal, and historical subjects. These are afterwards clipped, arranged in newspaper budgets, kept in large envelopes or oblong boxes, which are marked with labels. The list of subjects includes everything of value that finds its way into the columns of the press. Bulletin boards are covered daily with the best clippings from the latest papers, arranged under the leading heads of current topics.—*Badger.*

At Vanderbilt University many students have clubbed together and given to what is known as the Messing System a fair trial, with the most encouraging results. This system is a kind of club under the management of officers chosen by the club—a Secretary, a Steward, and a Matron—and all expenses are shared equally by the members. By this means good board is now furnished near the University at a cost of from \$9 to \$12 a month. The food is abundant, wholesome, well prepared, and gives universal satisfaction. The department of the students in this club, under operation of the rules and regulations enforced by themselves, is as good as can be found in any private boarding-house.

A TEST OF PERMANENT POPULARITY.

(A Fragment.)

* * * * *

'The history of literature attests, as has well been remarked, that power of expression is a surer preservative of a writer's popularity than even strength of thought itself.' So says Professor George Lillie Craik, LL.D.

Who it may be that has 'well remarked' this I know not; neither do I care to learn. But was there ever a more signal instance of the utter futility of the blind attempting to lead the blind? 'Power of expression,' forsooth! To how many score of writers could we not point, immortal—through their 'power of expression?'—no, except in so far as 'strength of thought' must and ever will embody itself in powerful expression? But enough of this.

To me it seems that proportionately to the *reverence* he excites is a writer popular—in the noble, deep sense of the word—and his works long-lived. That mere admiration that talented authors provoke amongst a small class, is it not purely a matter of the intellect only, a lower mind gazing 'in wonder and despair' at the gyrations and evolutions of a superior intellect soaring, in the same atmosphere indeed, but at an altitude which conceals the secret of its power or its mechanism—its mechanism, for I venture to say that often those soarings are due to adventitious aid, not natural vigour, to some conjuring trick perchance, or often to mere inflation with gas of lowest specific gravity? We cannot worship, bow down to, enshrine brain-force only; but goodness, straightforwardness,—in a word, truth.

And who is it that gains disciples, disciples, who, though their master commit not one thought to writing, blazon abroad his slightest gesture? Is it not the 'Saint of Athens,' and is it not He who, at that most critical moment of His whole life, undaunted, declared: 'To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth?'

Do not by any means imagine that I go so far as to say that all who do not call forth that spirit of discipleship, that contentment to lie at their feet and passively receive, must be bad, worthless or even indifferent. The one may be a scholar, the other is, however, a teacher; the one benefits our outward life or adds to our æsthetic pleasures; but the other builds up our inward life and encourages to noble action; the one discovers the beauties that line the path way of life; the other guides us along that path. Both are noble; but which is the nobler, to add to our knowledge or to increase our wisdom; to heap up facts, or to make accurate our conception of right and wrong, our discrimination between real and unreal, noble or ignoble; or, to leave the abstract and come to concrete example, to tell us that for nearly two centuries the world was mistaken in thinking that

by 'little Dickey' Addison meant Steele, or to say:—'Reader, all this that thou hast so often heard about "force of circumstances," "the creature of the time," "balancing of motives," and who knows what melancholy stuff to the like purport, wherein thou, as in a nightmare dream, sittest paralyzed, and hast no force left, was in very truth, if Johnson and waking men are to be credited, little other than a hag-ridden vision of death sleep; some half-fact, more fatal at times than a whole falsehood. Shake it off; awake; up and be doing, even as it is given thee?'

'O fie,' I hear, 'are you bringing Carlyle and Macaulay into the lists to tilt the one against the other; can you not let them rest with their respectively gained laurels?' Well, so let it be; but for him who penned that above noble sentence I must say one word, and for those who fail to see in him an object of reverence let me put it in this form:—If you consider his life as three-dimensional space—length, breadth, and thickness—and if you can mentally strip it of this third dimension (an act by those his admirers not dreamt of), strip it, that is, of its ruggedness, its obscurity, its, perhaps, even sometimes hasty and uncontrolled vehemence, in a word its Carlyleness, and come down to the true plane—the length and bread on which it works—fearless exposition of error, bold endeavour to eradicate it, even to the mutilating occasionally of truth itself—then even you can reverence Carlyle I think.'

Perhaps too, looking at him as some bright planet, far above the atmospheric changes of this world of ours, to most of us his light comes retracted, and his true position can never or only be approximately determined. For, the moral pulse of mankind, varying as it does directly as those incessant barometric fluctuations,—themselves the result of the antagonism of light and darkness, truth and error, good and evil—no calm, clear-headed sight of him is possible.

Or rather, let us say that Carlyle, as some fixed star, resting unchangeable in supreme repose upon that by him so long-wooded bosom, the eternal verities, so far beyond our ken that his distance is computable only in so many light-years, that Carlyle cannot shed upon us his light without, as it were, some degree of aberration and, hurrying, as we do, about our two foci—light and its opposite—lingering near our aphelion, but hurrying by when forced into proximity with the former—our perihelion, but few can supply the correction for parallax.

It is in this pitting of 'power of expression' against 'strength of thought' that the secret of this grievous error lies. As if they ever could be disparate, incompatible, antagonistic, nay, as if they could ever be anything else than interdependent, indissoluble. It is the very 'strength of thought' that necessitates, that compels, that creates the use of 'power of expression.' Can rich earth and the inherent vitality of a plant produce aught but a flower of the most delicate hues and the most fragrant perfume? And the nutritious fruit that results, is the cause of this those hues and that perfume, or is it not rather that same rich mould and inherent vitality?

Or, to look at the question under another figure: is it the burnished armour—*qua* burnished armour—or the valiant energy that eventually wins? But a valiant energy will with wisdom always endue itself with a flashing and impenetrable panoply. Does Achilles bear a shield of hide, or Hercules batter and destroy with a distaff?

Truly no. For a Jason to plough and sow an untouched and awful field; to make to grow an unthought-of crop of heroes, it requires that there be yoked some extraordinary bulls. And while to the ignorant the ferocity of the animals and the belching of the flames are the only things observed; to those in the secret is known the fact, that, before such arduous task is undertaken, a semi-divine enchantress has to be wooed; a superhuman influence has to be won; and this after much patience and trial of endurance.

Lastly, in proof of my assertion that goodness, straightforwardness, in a word, truth, is the surest criterion of permanency, let me quote the well-known lines:

'Fame is no plant that grows on mortal soil,
Nor in the glistening foil,
Set off to the world, nor in broad rumor lies,
But lives and spreads aloft by those pure eyes,
And perfect witness of all-judging Jove.'

ARNOLD HAULTAIN.

P. S.—Some forty-eight hours after penning the last sentence I have read—for the first time, with shame I confess it—the following sentence from the great man whom I was rash enough in

puny way to venture to belaud: trying, like some sickly glow-worm, to illumine or enhance by feeble light, the fierce glare of a mid-day sun.

No apologies are needed for appending it to this fragment:—'Day by day, looking at the high destinies which yet await Literature, which Literature will ere long address herself with more decisiveness than ever to fulfil, it grows clearer to us that the proper task of Literature lies in the domain of BELIEF. . . . Whereby it were not unreasonable to prophesy that this exceeding great multitude of Novel-writers and such like, must betake them with such faculty as they have to understand and record what is true. . . . Poetry, it will more and more come to be understood, is nothing but higher Knowledge; and the only genuine Romance (for grown persons) Reality. The Thinker is the Poet, the Seer; let him who sees write down according to his gift of sight.'—(The italics and capitals are Carlyle's.) Essay on Diderot.—*Foreign Quarterly Review*, No. 22.

THE ORIGIN OF MORAL EVIL.

There are many problems to which no answer can be given. The nature of force and life are hidden from all; the connection between nervous excitement and sensation is inexplicable. Is the question of the origin of evil one of this nature? Is it to be relegated to the 'heights of Absolute Being?' That certain actions are followed by evil consequences is a fact established in the world as it is created. Why is it so, we know not. Yet what determines such actions admits of some analysis. We cannot help thinking that those who refuse to acknowledge God as the ultimate source of evil as well as good, do so to save their orthodoxy at the expense of their logic.

Some have attempted to escape the question by refusing to admit the existence of evil, holding that we cannot regard as evil what forms a necessary part of the plan of Deity. Such an attempt is vain, because it sets up an arbitrary standard of Divine working, our knowledge of which is only to be obtained from the facts of human life. So long as we are conscious of right and wrong, and find ourselves doing the wrong and suffering for it, so long as we see thousands damned before their birth with debilitated constitutions and base appetites, thus long shall we be conscious of the presence of evil, and feel the propriety of seeking its ultimate source.

It is vain to seek the answer by dealing alone with some first progenitors of man. The biblical account is a contradiction. Unless Adam already had the conception that it was wrong to disobey God's command, it was not wrong for him to eat the apple from the tree. A knowledge of good and evil is presupposed on behalf of the agent in order to regard an action as morally good or bad.

The question, in fact, concerns each individual. It concerns the choices which each one makes as to his conduct.

The chief doctrine advanced to screen God from the imputation of being the author of evil as well as of good is: That, however great the passions and desires may be which tend to lead man astray, he is yet endowed with the power of governing them, 'of keeping under subjection the horses of the chariot of the soul.' That we are endowed with such power, is an assertion, for which neither consciousness nor experience gives any warrant. We are conscious of possessing powers only in the exercise of them; experience testifies only in those cases where results have appeared. How can we be conscious of possessing a power of control in a certain case in which we failed to control? Somewhat involved in this assertion is another, namely, that we possess a power of attention, by means of which the idea of the right action is kept before the mind's view to the exclusion of less worthy ends, and results in our doing the right. This is open to the same objection; we have no guarantee that this power of attention is sufficiently strong, or that we have always the power of using it. The fact is, that our capability for doing the right is by no means sufficiently developed. As we are created, so we act. We do automatically what appears to be most desirable. Desires balance or over-balance one another, and an organic action is the resultant of the various forces. Free-will has no meaning except in the sense that there is no hindrance to the mind's viewing one action as higher than another. An act of will independent of motive, is meaningless. There is no native energy of the mind for doing actions independent of their desirability. The attention of the mind is not turned in any particular direction without motive. Motives come into consciousness independent of will. They vary in force according to difference of

organic sensibility and education. Hence our course of action is determined by forces acting independent of our will. Hence responsibility has no other meaning than punishability, punishment affording a motive for action. We act according to the influence of our hereditary endowment, developed or modified by the circumstances in which we have been placed. We are 'clay in the Potter's hands.'

—FREE LANCE.

[The writer contributes this brief article with the hope of eliciting some discussion on a troublesome question. He is quite aware that the view here advanced is open to objection.—ED.]

Our Wallet.

Editor—'Have you been to the dog-show?' Sporting Editor—'No; anything presentable in the way of dog?' E.—'Dog! Why, there's a dog there valued at \$5,000!' S. E.—'\$5,000! We have a bull-pup in the sanctum we would part with for four dollars and a half and throw in two Freshmen to boot. The dog is worth \$4—perhaps 25 cents is too exorbitant a charge for Freshmen, we'll say two Freshmen and a half.'

* *

The latest slander on the dude is, that one bumped his head against a cobweb stretched across the street and had to be carried home with a cracked skull.—*The Hoosier*.

* *

TWO SIDES OF A SENTIMENT.

From the Sheltering Arms.

When two-year-old May Blossom
Comes down in clear white dress,
And runs to find 'dear Auntie,'
And claim her sweet caress.
Then Auntie takes up Blossom,
And her eyes they glow and shine,
Oh! pretty baby Blossom,
If you were only mine!

When Blossom, in the pantry,
High mounted on a chair,
Has nibbled at the icing
Till half the cake is bare.
Then Auntie puts down Blossom,
And her eyes they glow and shine:
Oh! naughty baby Blossom,
If you were only mine!

* *

A certain poetess is said to 'make good jellies as well as good poetry.' It is suggested that she also make a new departure,—i. e., send her jellies to newspaper offices and can her poems. Jellies discount poetry as 'inside matter' every time.

* *

A little six-year-old orphan, upon being asked to name the greatest festival in the church, replied, 'The strawberry festival.'

* *

Col. Henri Watterson recently said that George D. Prentice did not drink a drop in the last year of his life. Whereat the other Colonels of that state look significantly at one another and say: 'There, see? Only lived a year after he quit drinking.'

* *

It is said that the peculiar sunsets are caused by the sun trying to set by the new standard time.

A Harvard student has fitted up his room at a cost of \$1,000. His room is probably better than his company.

* *

'Gentlemen,' said the Professor to his medical students assembled in clinic, 'I have often pointed out to you the remarkable tendency to consumption of those who play upon wind instruments. In this case now before us we have a well marked case of lung disease, and I was not surprised to find, on questioning the patient, that he was a member of a brass band. Now, sir,' continued the Professor, addressing the consumptive, 'will you please tell the gentlemen what instrument you play on?' 'I blays der drum,' said the sick man.

Communications.

THE MODERN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT.

To the Editor of the 'VARSITY.

DEAR SIR,—At this time of reconstruction, when many important changes are being made in the Modern Language Department, we might consider with advantage what should be the real objects of a course of modern languages in our College, and what are the best means of attaining those ends. Should its aim be to prepare a student to pass creditably certain examinations, translate certain authors and acquire a number of facts of philology, literature and literary criticism? A question not to be asked. Should not its aim be, as of all University training, enriching, disciplining and stimulating the mind, in a word—education?

In order that a modern language course should educate, two things are necessary. Let us begin with the principle, that it is infinitely better to know a few things perfectly than to have a smattering of many. Apply this to the Modern Language course. As the curriculum stands here is what is required: English, French, German, Italian, language and literature, ancient, mediæval and modern history, ethnology and the philology of several languages. Is not this too much to study thoroughly in four years? Would it not be much better to lessen the number of subjects, and study the few to mastery. As the course stands how many graduates in it can say they have mastered a single one of the subjects named, or did so by the help they got in the College? The two things necessary are:—1st, Knowledge of the languages. 2nd, Knowledge of the literatures.

The thing of primary importance, it will be conceded, is not the 'faculty of scientific procedure,' but the practical and thorough knowledge of the languages themselves. If this is to be done in class, more time is necessary for teaching; we have not time for everything; we must distinguish between the essential and the non-essential, and I make the statement without fear of contradiction, that a practical knowledge of French and German can be had without knowing a word of philology. This needs no argument; we acquire English without it, so we can acquire foreign languages. And just here let me make a suggestion. I believe there is an attempt to add such work as Old French, Provençal, Philology, Anglo-Saxon to the course. This is decidedly binding burdens on us that neither we nor our fathers were able to bear. Why not put all this on a post-graduate course for M.A. It would make the degree worth something and represent some work, instead of being, as it is now, merely honorary. Besides it would attach the graduates to the College, and encourage them to keep up their course.

The acquirement of the languages is then the primary object but they are not an end in themselves. Though the earnest study of any language with the desire to make it one's own is itself a great and wholesome discipline, it is not sufficient to be the object of one entire college course. We do not come to University College simply to be able to 'parlez vous' when occasion demands. We could do that better without ever coming near its walls. But we come for something higher—education.

It is a widely-received opinion that there is in the study of literature as literature an education second to none. Indeed, such a thinker and critic as Mr. Arnold goes as far as to rate it equal with that received from the study of science. The study of the classics has been recognized as an educational agent for hun-

dreds of years, but the study of modern literature has many and special advantages. Not only does it, as your editorial points out, enable us to assimilate the thoughts of the greatest minds; but even if they fail to do this, the mere contact with such minds is a powerful stimulus to our own. The training it affords may not be as systematic as that of science, may not train the thinking faculties so *regularly*, but it stimulates them more powerfully. There is more human interest in it; it brings one abreast of modern thought, makes us men of the present, broadens our sympathies, makes us see that there are people on the other side of the mountain, and disabuses our minds of the narrow prejudice that all excellence, earnestness, wisdom, resides eternally in one literature, our own. Besides, though I would not urge this point, modern languages have a practical value to any student or professional man. Much of modern science, theology, criticism are locked up in French and German. The knowledge of the languages is indispensable, for language is the key of literature. Let us have one course in the college that will be distinctly literary, that will give some scope for originality, independent study and enthusiasm: that will give men a good knowledge of English and teach them to express themselves readily in it. Let it not be encumbered with what is useless, but let its aims be clear and well-defined; and its motto, simplicity, efficiency thoroughness.

To attain these ends more men and therefore more money is needed. We must have a chair in German and one in the Romance Languages. But in the meantime much might be done without any expenditure of money at all. The requirements might be different. The place where most reform is needed is in the curriculum and the examinations.

What the curriculum might do. It might do away with, first, the absurdity of having History and Ethnology on the course, and, second, the acquiring knowledge of literature second-hand through such media as 'Gostwick and Harrison,' 'Demogeot,' and 'Craik.' It might make the student devote himself more to the indispensable thing, learning the language. This is not to be done by translating alone, or by reading of works on philology, but by study and the practical using of the language in the classroom in reading, writing, and speaking. One famous remark of our professor of Metaphysics applies here: 'A man learns to play on the harp by playing on the harp.' Man learns French and German by reading, writing, and speaking French and German. This cannot be too often repeated or enforced. The curriculum might emphasize the value of prose by requiring a greater quantity, and perhaps exercises in different styles, as letters, essays, articles. In the upper years all texts might be taken off, so that the student may be untrammelled in his course of reading. The student would then be supposed to have a working knowledge of the languages, and sufficient enthusiasm and desire to study literature, and to read the standard works of each country. At the same time he would continue the study of the language on its practical side. More attention should also be paid to our own language and literature, especially in the much neglected department of composition. Would it not be well if this were encouraged by prizes, or by some distinction on the class-lists, such as honorable mention? Might not there be compulsory exercises throughout the year?

What the professors might do. Under this new state of affairs, with special professors to give all their time to their own department, we would of course have more enthusiasm, more life, more teaching. We could have lectures on the literatures delivered in the language to which they belong, as they do at London. With a different curriculum, and a different standard of examination, the nature of the lectures would of course be different.

What examiners and examinations might do. By all means let us have fewer of them, and let them set up a different standard. Let more emphasis be laid on practical knowledge. The honors might be given exclusively on prose. In English an original thesis on some literary subject might be required for a B.A. More importance might be attached to accurate finished literary translation into English. Examinations on literature might give more scope for a student's originality by requiring his views on particular periods, authors, or celebrated works.

With such a course as this, there is no reason why a student after four years should not leave the College able to read and write French and German with ease, with an English literary style, and with a wide and sympathetic knowledge of the best of modern literature. Such an education seems to me a thing to be desired.

I cannot close without saying how I regret that the 'VARSITY' in its comments upon my former letter should have so completely

mistaken its very obvious meaning, and imputed to me views which I hope I have shown I am very far from holding.

ARCHIBALD MACMECHAN.

CO-EDUCATION.

To the Editor of the 'VARSITY.

DEAR SIR,—Your admirable editorial criticized so calmly and logically the opinions expressed by Messrs. Houston and Stevenson, that any observations by me may seem superfluous. Yet, there are a few points in their letters I wish to refer to.

Mr. Houston says: 'The question is.....not whether women and men shall be educated at Universities together, but whether women shall be allowed to have a University education at all.' And, then, he points out that many who favor co-education 'would rather have a separate institution of the same kind for women, but until such an institution is provided, or, at least, until there is some chance of getting one, they resent the injustice inflicted on those who are desirous of obtaining a University education and cannot get it.'

Very good. But, have these gentlemen who 'would rather have a separate institution of the same kind for women,' and, yet, who are bitterly ardent in their advocacy for co-education, considered that by such a course as they adopt they are greatly lessening the chances of getting such a separate institution as they say they prefer? If they are so very anxious, as their writings seem to indicate, to provide means for the higher education of the women of the Province, how does it come that they do not, at least, attempt to petition the Legislature for a separate institution instead of clamoring for what is, at least, but a mere social experiment? If a prominent member of the government stated that the higher education of women should not be disposed of on the ground of economy by the 'rich and prosperous Province of Ontario,' and that a higher and broader view should be taken of the matter, is there not room to hope that a petition such as I have referred to might receive the consideration of the House, although the State aid question was left over for another session?

But you answer: there is a present need. We agree. A present need, let us remind you, of a separate institution, for we know four ladies who are desirous of obtaining a University education, and yet who, on principle, would not enter University College if its doors were thrown open at once. Will those *just* men who advocate co-education for University College see any 'flagrant injustice' to these 'few sufferers?' Is there not actually more injustice done to these ladies, forasmuch as the introduction of co-education will, though plainly unsuccessful, put further back than ever the chances of getting a separate institution that will fairly and equally meet the wants of all the ladies of the Province desiring a higher education? We mention only four ladies to whom injustice would be done, but we have good reason to think that the majority of the ladies who matriculated and whose feelings and opinions ought to be consulted would be treated in a similar manner.

And yet, to listen to the violent denunciations of their opponents by co-educationists it might be fancied that these individuals were the only true champions of the cause of the higher education of women in this Province.

A word about Mr. Stevenson's 'numerous statistics' and 'overwhelming array of evidence!' He speaks, Mr. Editor, of the coolness of some of your assumptions as being unparalleled, and yet in the next sentence he has the coolest audacity to quote as part (and doubtless the main part) of his 'overwhelming array of evidence' the names of Drs. White, Fairchild and Grant. As some of your readers may not know some facts in connection with co-education in Cornell, we will state them. In the first place, the Sage endowment necessitated the establishment and continuance of co-education. Secondly, Dr. Wilson points out in his open letter to the Minister of Education that 'President White since the introduction of co-education at Cornell, has been to a large extent precluded from personal observation. He has accepted diplomatic appointments; was ambassador at Berlin for upwards of two years; and subsequently engaged in other political missions: in addition to which, on the ground of health he has for long periods been absent from the University.' These statements have been recently and publicly corroborated by one of the Professors of Cornell itself.

The name of Dr. Fairchild as an authority must provoke a smile, especially from those who are conversant with his 'gratuitous assertion' *anent* the grand time the boys and girls have at his institution, and, moreover, when they remember that Dr.

Fairchild states that the Oberlin had *peculiar* and *special* advantages for the success (?) of co-education, and also expresses a doubt as to the wisdom of introducing this scheme after a separate scheme has been in operation for some time.

As for Dr. Grant, he is by no means a pronounced co-educator, but rather a decided advocate of separate education where such can be obtained, as shewn by his energy in founding a Ladies' Medical College.

We know Mr. S. refers to the evidence he gave a few months ago in the 'VARSITY when he speaks of the 'overwhelming array,' but cut away the names of Drs. White and Fairchild and a few others, and co-educationists, talk and write as they will, must 'go west' to small minor institutions to make up their evidence.

Let me ask, in conclusion, why Mr. S. speaks so unbecomingly of Drs. Wilson and Eliot? If they have *tried separate education* as Dr. White and Fairchild have *tried co-education*, surely the opinions of the former ought to have, at least, equal weight with the opinions of the latter in comparing the two systems of education.

Yours, &c.,
JNO. MCGILLIVRAY.

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