# THE VARSITY

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#### RONDEL.

When night descends with dusky-shadowing wings Come all the joys that brief oblivion brings; Respite, release from sorrow, care and pain, Though afterwhile these ever come again, And sleep his gracious poppied censer swings When night descends.

Dreams haven, too, the soul from sad unrest, (Would dreams were ever slumber's sweet behest;) Life floats within a liquid realm of gleams Renascent from the darkling depths of streams Of being that flow within the human breast,

When night descends

Outside in blackness rests the weary world, The pinions of the goddess o'er it furled, Welcome is night's nepenthe unto all, Though bitter be the aftertaste as gall, If its grief is half into the darkness hurled

When night descends.

GWYN ARAUN.

## THE UNIVERSITY AND THE PROFESSIONS.

III .- CIVIL ENGINEERING.

The progress and triumphs of the engineering art during this Victorian age have been most remarkable. Ever since the engineers formed themselves into a society to tead and discuss papers on engineering subjects, and began to nukli discuss papers on engineering subjects, and steady to Publish their transactions, there has been a steady growth and improvement; the methods and the knowledge of one had improvement; of one becomes the property of all; the inventive or creative factories tive faculty is aided and stimulated; and all in turn contribute to the profession, a tribute to the advancement of a noble profession, a profession which the advancement of a noble profession, a profession which the great sion which, in the words of Telford, deals with the great sources of power in nature, and turns them to the use and service of man.

Although the Institution of Civil Engineers was formed as early as 1818, and incorporated in 1828, it was not until 1836, that they began to publish their transactions in regular form, accompanied by plans and illustrations. In these we have a full account and record of almost every the past half the past half century, generally from the pen of the engineer who decimal it together with the criticisms thereon neer who designed it, together with the criticisms thereon encycloned in the profession—thus forming a sort of encyclopædia of the engineering methods for overcoming the obstacles of the engineering to the lines of travel and the obstacles interposed by nature to the lines of travel and

trade.
This institution now numbers upwards of five thousand members of the United This institution now numbers upwards of five thousand sprung of all classes, and from this parent society have States the more recent ones of Canada and the United upwards of One thousand members, and the Canadian

Society, incorporated in 1877, has over four hundred

As an example of the advanced engineering of our day, the canal and lock built by the United States Government at the Sault St. Marie may be briefly mentioned. The writer has not seen any published account of it, but he has seen the work itself. Here there is a fall in these rapids varying from 18 to 19 feet in a distance of about one mile. This fall is overcome by a single lock of somewhat remarkable design. The width between the gates is sixty feet, but the gates are not placed on the same axis in the line of canal. There is a difference of twenty feet between the axis of the lower and the axis of the upper gates, the effect of which is to give a width of eighty feet to the chamber. So far as is known this is an criginal device, and serves to enable a tug with its tow to pass through in a single lockage, for the length of the chamber, or distance between the gates, is about five hundred feet.

The head and fall of the lock is skilfully utilized for opening and closing the gates and sluices of the lock by hydraulic pressure instead of manual labour. A small building at the foot of the lock contains the turbines fed from the canal, which maintain a pressure in the accumulator of some six or seven hundred pounds to the square inch —a power ever ready at hand to open and close the gates and sluices. This portion of the design is after the English lish practice at the great docks in Liverpool and London, only that waterpower is used in place of steam. But the boldest innovation upon the received notions of hydraulic engineers is the method adopted for filling and emptying the lock through sluices under the gates, instead of placing them in the lock walls, or in the gates themselves. There was a previous arrangement of this kind in the lock at Henry on the Illinois River, which is supposed to have been entirely successful. The special advantage in this case at Sault St. Marie, where the water is as clear as crystal, and the bottom is plainly visible at a depth of twenty feet, and free from rubbish of all sorts, is the rapid filling and emptying of the lock, without that dangerous swinging of the craft when the water is admitted through the gates. The sluices under the gates run along under the lock floor near two-thirds of the way-towards the lower gates, and the inflowing current boils up without giving motion to the vessel, or endangering the safety of the gates. But the greatest advantage of this method is the economy of time in passing vessels. The writer timed the C. P. R. steamer making a passage two years ago, and found it occupied just thirteen minutes. To a growing trade like that which passes the "Soo" (equal now in tonnage to that which passes the Suez Canal) the quickness of a lockage is a matter of much importance.

In America, a lock of nineteen feet lift, of such large dimensions as this one, would hardly have been under-taken fifty years ago, but now that it has been tested for many years, and proved entirely satisfactory, engineers will not hesitate to work up to so good an example, and even to greater lifts when the occasion demands it. As a combination of English and American practice, this lock may be looked upon as a fine specimen of advanced hy-

draulic engineering.

Take just one other example of a great engineering work now in course of construction in Scotland—the Forth Bridge -designed by Sir John Fowler and Benjamin Baker, dis-

tinguished members of the Institution of Civil Engineers. As the general plan and details of this bridge are quite familiar to the profession through the reports and illustrations published in all the engineering papers, it is unnecessary here to weary the reader with a descriptive account of the work and its progress up to the present time. The object of this reference is to point out the amazing boldness of the design in regard to the length of spans. Until this plan was produced the construction of any railway bridge of spans much exceeding five hundred feet was deemed impracticable. It is true suspension bridges of twice or three times that length have been built, but it is generally conceded that bridges of this kind are unsuitable for ordinary railway traffic. The Forth bridge has two spans of 1,700 feet each, and two half-spans of 680 feet each. Here, then, at a bound, the span for a railway bridge is extended from five hundred to seventeen hundred The creative faculty accomplishes this marvel by the employment of simple and well known methods, only extended far beyond any previous example. Brackets, like arms, are extended from each pier 675 feet, leaving a space of 350 feet between their approaching ends. This space is then filled in by an ordinary truss, and the thing is done. Happy thought. It is called a cantilever, because the two brackets are levers, and they are balanced by corresponding levers on the other side of the pier.

This enormous structure has now been for several years in progress, and it may yet take another year to finish it. Meanwhile the cantilever principle has already been adopted and carried out in many bridges on this side of the Atlantic, but in spans scarcely exceeding the old limit of five hundred feet. Many have been constructed in a wonderfully short space of time, which is a marked feature in the railway enterprise of the present day.

Let the student of civil engineering ponder these things, and, as he advances in his studies, let him ask himself the question, whether he possesses the requisite fitness, and has the taste and inclination to enter the lists in the active pursuit of the profession. No one else can tell him if he will become an engineer. Poeta nascitur non fit—and so it is with the engineer.

SAMUEL KEEFER.

## DRYBURGH ABBEY.

SECOND PART.

But, ah! that mournful dream proved true, the immortal Scott was dead,

The great magician of romance and knightly lay had fled, The "Ariosto of the North," the voice of Tweed no more Might pour its music o'er our hearts and charm us as of yore.

The spirit of departed days recalled my dreaming mood, Once more methought within the vale of gloom and death I stood; Still far from east to west that train of mourners swept along, And still the voice or vision of my waking dream was song.

I saw the courtly Euphuist with Halbert of the Dell,
And like a ray of moonlight passed the White Maid of Avenel,
Lord Morton, Douglas, Bolton, and the Royal Earl marched there
To the slow and solemn funeral chant of the Monks of Kennaguhair.

And she, on whose imperial brow a god had set his seal, The glory of whose loveliness grief might not all conceal, The loved in high and princely halls, in low and lonely cots, Stood Mary, the illustrious, yet hapless Queen of Scots.

The firm devoted Catherine, the sentimental Graeme, Lochleven, whose worn brow revealed an early blighted name, The enthusiastic Magdalen, the pilgrim of that shrine, Whose spirit triumphs o'er the touch and makes its dust divine.

Next Norna of the Fitful-Head, the wild Reim-kennar came, But shivered lay her magic wand and dim her eye of flame, Young Minna Troil, the lofty-souled, whom Cleveland's love be traved.

The generous old Utaller and Mordaunt's sweet island maid.

Then followed Lord Glenvarloch, first of Scotia's gallant names, With the fair romantic Margaret and the erudite King James, The wooed and wronged Hermione, whose lord all hearts despise, Sarcastic Malagrowther and the faithful Moniplies.

Then stout Sir Geoffrey of the Peak and Peveril swept near, Stern Bridgenorth and the fiery Duke with knight and cavalier, The fairest of fantastic elves, Fenella glided on, And Alice, from whose beauteous lips the light of joy was gone.

Then Leicester, Lord of Kenilworth, in mournful robes was seen. The gifted, great Elizabeth, high England's matchless queen. Tressilian's wild and manly glance, and Varney's darker gaze Sought Any Robsart's brilliant form too fair for earthly praise.

And Quentin's haughty helm flashed there, Le Balafre's stout lancer Orleans, Creveccur and brave Dunois, the noblest knight of France. The wild Hayraddin followed by the silent Joan de Troyes. The mournful Lady Hameiine and Isabelle de Croye.

Pale sorrow marked young Tyrrel's mien, grief dimmed sweet Clara's eye,

And Ronan's Laird breathed many a prayer for days and friends gone by,

"Oh mourn not!" pious Cargill cried, "should his death woe impart," Whose cenotaph's the universe, whose elegy's the heart?"

Forth bore the noble Fairford his fascinating bride,
The lovely Lilias with the brave Redgauntlet by her side,
Black Campbell and the bold redoubted Maxwell met my view,
And Wandering Willie's solemn wreath of dark funereal yew.

As foes who meet upon some wild, some far and foreign shore, Wrecked by the same tempestuous surge, recall past feuds no more, Thus prince and peasant, peer and slave, thus friend and foe combine To pour the homage of their hearts upon one common shrine.

Around in solemn grandeur passed the bravest of the brave, And deep and far the clarions waked the wild dirge of the grave, On came the *Champion of the Cross*, and near him, like a star, . The regal *Berengaria*, beauteous daughter of Navarre.

The high heroic Saladin, with proud and princely mien,
The rich and gorgeous Saracen and the fairy Nazarine,
There Edith and her Nubian slave breathed many a thought divine,
Whilst rank on rank—a glorious train—rode the Knights of Palestine.

Straight followed Zerubbabel and Joliffe, of the Tower, Young Wildrake, Markham, Hazledeane, and the fairest nymph, Mey Flower,

The democratic Cromwell, stern, resolute, and free, The Knight of Woodstock and the light and levely Alice Lee.

And there the crafty Proudfute for once true sorrow felt, Craigdallie, Charteris and the recreant Conachar the Celt, And he whose chivalry had graced a more exalted birth. The noble minded Henry and the famed Fair Maid of Perth.

The intrepid Anne of Geierstein, the false Lorraine stepped near, Proud Margaret of Anjou and the faithful, brave De Vere, There Arnold and the King Rene and Charles the Bold had met The dauntless Donnerhugel and the graceful young Lizette.

Forth rode the glorious Godfrey by the gallant Hugh the Great, While wept the brave and beautiful their noble minstrel's fate. Then Hereward the Varangian with Bertha at his side, The valorous Count of Paris and his amazonian bride.

And last among that princely train raised high De Walton's plume, Next fair Augusta's laurel wreath, which time shall ne'er consume,

And Anthony with quiver void, his last fleet arrow sped, Leant mourning o'er his broken bow and mused upon the dead.

The vision and the voice are o'er, their influence waned away, Like music o'er a summer lake at the golden close of day; The vision and the voice are o'er, but when will be forgot The buried genius of romance, the imperishable SCOTT?

## A UNIVERSITY RECOGNIZES A POET.

The public hall of Johns Hopkins University, on the afternoon of Friday, February 3rd, 1888, presented an unusual appearance. It is a plain business-like room, almost almost commonplace; the only redeeming feature being oil-portraits of the founder and a most distinguished professor, and two memorial brasses on the walls. For the rest it is a small modern room lighted at one side and with hearing or dais at the west end. But to-day it has been beautified. A grand piano stood at one end of the platform with vases of white lilies on it. The reading-desk in the centre had been removed and in its place, with a rich green books. green background of tall tropical plants, was a laurel-ribbon holds a flute and a roll of music. The face will repay study. It is one of Keyser's famous bronzes. The lines of the small round classical head are extremely lines of the small round classical head are extremely delicate, the nose is strong and aristocratic, the eyes thoughtful, and a long silky beard flowing down upon the breast gives the impression of great dignity and nobility; everything speaks for sensitiveness and refinement rather than strength, though there is not a weak line anywhere. It is the likeness of Sidney Lanier, poet and musician. This is his forty-sixth birthday and it is six years since he died. On the work of a small table is a large lyre of died. On the other side on a small table is a large lyre of toses and lilies, and at the base in red flowers the words, The time needs heart," the motto of the dead poet. The scent of the flowers fills the room.

The occasion is semi-private; only a limited number could be invited and many of those present had been perthe audience is the strong individuality of each face. There are several celebrities here and a good sprinkling of literary workers and educationists. Punctually at four the prime of life, enters with a lady in deep mourning on widow; she is plainly but not poorly dressed; the little from her forehead in an old-fashioned way, and there is an attractive and pleasing face. Her two sons, one in the pass up the aisle and take seats just in front of the platform.

A few minutes later the President stands up, the buzz With his well-known tact he explains in a few well chosen tured in this very place, how the bust had been given by neous the whole affair had been. There was a thrill and spoke them for the first time, "There is—rosemary, that's lt was appropriate, of course, that's for thoughts." should be heard, and a lady cousin read in a very sympand. "The Marches," and others. The applause was never the audience seemed to be perfectly in touch and tune letters from fellow-poets, Holmes, Lowell, Steadman, and Poetical activity. These were followed by poetical

tributes from various poets, among others Edith Thomas, and two of our students, of whom we are proud, Cummings, of Tennessee, and Burton, of Hartford, some of whose work has come out in Century and Harper's. It gives one strange feelings to hear a man say, "Lanier and I were in prison together in the war, and he used to call me his Jonathan," but from first to last there was not a single false note struck, nothing affected, nor anything that one could wish had not been said or done. There was music to relieve the speakers. The first number was two songs; of the first the words were by Lanier, the music by an unknown composer, very grave and sweet. The words are so exquisite that I give them in full:—

THE BALLAD OF THE TREES AND THE MASTER.

Into the woods my Master went,
Clean forspent, forspent,
Into the woods my Master came,
Forspent with love and shame.
But the clives they were not blind to Him,
The little gray leaves were kind to Him,
The thorn-tree had a min l to Him,
When into the woods He came.

Out of the woods my Master went,
And He was well content.
Out of the woods my Master came
Content with death and shame
When Death and shame should woo Him last,
From under the tree they drew Him last,
'Twas on a tree they slew Him last,
When out of the woods He came.

I think you will have to go back to the tenderest and most devout lyrics of the Catholic middle ages to match such verse. The other was Lanier's setting of "Love that hath us in his net." It was simpler than the first, and better liked. Both were very well sung. I heard a Berlin lady say afterwards that she had not heard such concert singing since she came to Baltimore.

But, not to take up too much time with details, the chief remaining features were the speech by the President of Rutgers College; also a friend of Lanier's, which was full of earnest enthusiasm, with the text, "The time needs heart," protesting against the low aims of the age and the theory of art for art's sake; a violin solo from Bach, well rendered; and the knitting together of all the feelings and trains of thought in a grand piano solo from Liszt's Almira, which closed the proceedings.

The celebration was in honour of Lanier, but the guests were not forgotten. Each, on leaving the hall, was presented with a handsome memorial card, gotten up with excellent taste. On the front was an inscription in gilt letters, with the date and the motto, "Aspiro dum expiro," and on the reverse some lines from one of the poet's pieces. This was the thought of a Boston lady, and her contribution to the festival. [Note.—The musicians from the "Conservatory" had been associated with Lanier during his stay in Baltimore; and their part in the day was purely voluntary.]

Such was the Lanier celebration, the most graceful recognition possible of an author by a learned body. Everything that music, flowers, poetry, oratory, deep feeling could do, made up a memorial that was simply unique. The sentiment wavered between sorrow or regret for the "lost leader," and rejoicing in his noble life and chivalrous song. And the taste displayed in the arrangement of the programme did not allow the interest to flag or any feeling to be over-strained. So many different people took part in it, and from first to last it was spontaneous and heart-felt. Altogether, it will be remembered, by all who were there, as an occasion of unalloyed pleasure and a perennial fountain of inspiration.

A. MACMECHAN.

Johns Hopkins University,

## THE VARSITY.

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All communications should be addressed to THE EDITORS, University College, Toronto, and must be in on Wednesday of each week.

No notice will be taken of anonymous contributions.

### THE PROFESSORSHIP OF POLITICAL ECONOMY.

In another colum will be found a letter from a correspondent, who takes the editors of THE VARSITY to task for referring to the new Chair as that of "Political Economy," whereas it is, as we are aware, officially designated "Political Science." The nationality of our correspondent must be his excuse for not appreciating a joke. Bill Nye and Eli Perkins have come and gone, have lectured on the Philosophy of Wit and Humour, and yet it seems to be necessary to perform the traditional surgical operation in order to let in upon the minds of some of Scotia's sons scintillations and corruscations of wit and humour. If our critic had paid more attention to our editorials, he could have read between the lines that THE VARSITY was endeavouring to have its little joke about one of the characteristics of the present Provincial Administration; and that, to carry out the same, it was necessary to refer, pointedly and consistently, to political economy, and to dwell upon the great value and importance of economics as a branch of study in a government institution. In view of these facts, we venture most respectfully to press upon the government the necessity of making provision, before the present session closes, for the appointment of a Professor of the Philosophy of Wit and Humour in the University of Toronto, and we venture to suggest, with all deference, that our esteemed critic should attend a summer session in the above course.

Our correspondent charges us, in one breath, with narrowing Political Science down to mere Political Economy; while, in the next, he finds fault with us for unduly broadening it by including in it "two (subjects) not mentioned in the advertisement," viz.: Constitutional Law and Jurisprudence. If we erred in attaching undue importance to Political Economy as a sub-department of Political Science, our critic may fairly be charged with going to the other extreme. Viewed with special reference to the work of the new Professor as a Professor in the Faculty of Arts, we contend, as we have all along done, that Political Economy will be, and indeed should be, the most important branch of his subject. Viewed from the "teaching-law-faculty point of view," which our correspondent assumes, Political Economy, of necessity, is subordinate to Comparative Politics and International Law. It must be remembered that the new Professor is to lecture in the two Faculties of Arts and Law; in the former the great majority of his students will come to receive his instruction in Political Economy; in the latter the great majority will come to hear him lecture on Comparative Politics and International Law. Political Economy is a prescribed, as well as partly an elective subject in the University of Toronto, and will be; we venture to say, the most popular sub-department with students of Political Science. And again, Political Economy is, and must be, for years at least, of much more practical value and importance to us, as Canadians, than Comparative Politics or International Law. For in Canada, we directly control our damestic policy and our economical relations with other nations; whereas, as was manifest in the result of the recent Fisheries' negotiations, all our International Law is done for us through the agency of Downing Street. We still venture to maintain, therefore, and without for a moment disparaging the study either of Comparative Politics or of International Law, that the s udy of Political Economy is vastly more important to Canadians than that of the two other branches. We might indicate more exactly the relative importance we attach to

the study of the three by saying that the study of Political Economy might with advantage be made compulsory; that of Comparative Politics or of International Law should be optional with students. We fail to see how we are chargeable with seeking to "arouse baseless prejudices against the new Chair before it comes into existence," or with acting unfairly towards its prospection in a second state of the second seco tive incumbent by insisting that the new Chair shall be filled by a man who will be able to rise above the level of contemporary party politics. We have yet to learn that such a course is "injurious to the college."

THE VARSITY'S position in regard to probable Canadian applicants for the new Professorship has been somewhat misunderstood We do not wish for one moment to exclude Canadians from the competition, or to do so simply on the ground of their past connection with tion with party politics. But at the same time there is a danger that the past, while it might not greatly influence the Professor in his presentation of the principles of Political Economy, might be a heavy entail, and might have given a bias to his mind which will not be so easy for him to throw off as some people fondly imagine.

But this is a minor point, and though of importance, is far outweighed by a practical consideration of what the new Chair will require of its occupant. He must be a thorough master of Political Economy, Comparative Politics, Constitutional History, and International Transfer of August De a morougn master of International Programme Transfer of International Programme national Law. To have acquired such a knowledge as should reasonably be expected of one who is to lecture in all these branches of Political Science, means that the new Professor must possess more than a cursory acquaintance with the contents of text-books; and though not and though not a sine qua non, that he should have studied abroad, independently. independently, for some years, and have acquired a title to be reckoned a specialist in his department.

We should very much like to hear from our correspondents what Canadians can show a record of this kind. Who will name a native Canadian who is fitted, under these conditions—and we regard them as econsists. them as essential—to fill the new Chair, and to take rank in his department with the department, with the majority of the present professorial staff of the University, and a staff of the University, and to take rame to me the new Chair, and to take rame to the department, with the majority of the present professorial staff of the University, and the staff of the University, and the staff of the University and the university an University, as a specialist? It is all very well to cry out that Canadians should be caused as a specialist? Canadians should have the first choice of everything Canadian, but it is supply the but it is surely the most misguided patriotism and the most blind provincialism to say that Committee the most misguided patriotism and the most prefer provincialism to say that Canadians should always have the preference, simply because the ence, simply because they have been born in Canada. If Canadians have consider a consideration of the canada consideration of the canada canad dians have qualified themselves to meet competition with foreign talent on equal groups. talent on equal grounds, then we are willing enough, ceteris paribus, to admit the principle of Care V to admit the principle of Canada for the Canadians, but not otherwise.

We are quite willing to leave the appointment of the new professor in the hands of the Minister of Education, believing that he has regard enough for multihas regard enough for public opinion, and that he has the interests of higher education sufficients of higher education sufficiently at heart, to guide him aright in the selection, from among all the selection, from among all the candidates, of the most fit occupant for the new Chair of Political C.

## THE UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE REPORTS.

The Reports of the Vice-Chancellor of the University and of the resident of University. President of University College are inserted as appendices to the annual Report of the Minimum and President of the President of the University and President of University College are inserted as appendices to the University of the University and President of University College are inserted as appendices to the University of the University Office and President of the University Office and Office annual Report of the Minister of Education. The report of the University contains nothing University contains nothing but statistics of graduates and under-graduates, and occupies had graduates, and occupies but a page. From it we learn that 213 candidates matriculated in the statistics of graduates and unit 213 candidates matriculated in the statistics of graduates and unit 213 candidates matriculated in the statistics of graduates and unit 213 candidates and unit 213 candidates matriculated in the statistics of graduates and unit 213 candidates and unit 213 candidat candidates matriculated in the different Faculties last year, distributed as follows: I am a second a tributed as follows: Law 10, Medicine 26, Arts 187.

granted were 117 28 follows. granted were 117, as follows: Law 6, Medicine 27, Arts 84.

granted were 117, as follows: Law 6, Medicine 27, Arts 84.

20 were the 891 candidates who was the 891 candidates who underwent examination last year, 39 were in the Faculty of Law 700 in the in the Faculty of Law, 130 in that of Medicine, 694 in that of Arts, and the remaining 28 to 1. and the remaining 28 took the local examinations.

The report of the President of University College occupies two ages and a quarter and in the contract of the president of University College occupies two with a ges and a quarter and in the contract of the pages and a quarter, and gives more statistics, together with a complete list of the complete list of the teaching staff of the College, which now reaches the respectable reaches the respectable number of 25. From the statistics pre-sented we gather the following the statistics who sented we gather the following facts: Of the 117 candidates who received degrees at the Commerce ustureceived degrees at the Commencement last June, 93 were dents who had oursued the dents who had pursued their undergraduate studies in University College, and creditable Commencement last June, 93 were dents who had pursued their undergraduate studies in University." College, and creditably fulfilled all the prescribed requirements, and The remainder ware and The remainder were medical students from other colleges, and special candidates in the degree of LL.B. At the matriculation examinations 151 new students were admitted; and the total number in attendance on the College lectures during the previous academic year was 530; of this number, "382 were undergraduates pursuing the full courses of study prescribed by the University for proceeding to a degree in Arts." So much for statistics.

It is most satisfactory and very gratifying to be assured that the record of the students in attendance on College lectures during the record of the students in attendance on College lectures during the num. ing the past academic year shows a continued increase of the number availing themselves of the advantages offered by the instructions of the various professors and lecturers," and that the specified returns—of which we have given an abstract—"show a larger attendance than in any previous year." It is also encouraging to learn that "by recent arrangements with the Education Department of the Province ment, the High Schools and Collegiate Institutes of the Province have been brought into closer relations with the work prescribed by the University," but no specific mention is made of the arrangements so completed; they probably refer to the establishment of local examination centres for matriculation, and to the acceptance of teachers' certificates, pro tanto, for admission into the Faculty of Arts. Short references are made to completed and also to contemplated changes in the staff. The immediate proclamation of the University Act of 1887 is strongly urged, since the "present transit." transitional stage of the University and College involves an unavoidable uncertainty as to the actual functions of the College We are glad to learn that the Physical laboratory has had important additions made to it in the department of Electricity, and can but regret that, apparently, it is the only department to which additions have been made during the year. The list of Prizes and Medals, however, which we recently published, shows that the graduates have manifested a very commendable degree of interest many and that interest in the work of the College during the past year, and that the circle of friends of University College is constantly widening and their liberality increasing.

And now for a few words of criticism. The reports give very meagre and most unsatisfactory information to those who really take an interest in the University and University College. They are not are litterly lost amongst the rest of the Report of the Minister of Education Education, and are worthy of a somewhat more dignified place than many volume. It is than mere appendices to that otherwise interesting volume. It is really all the consider the matter, really absurd, when one comes seriously to consider the matter, to think and reputation of our own think that a University of the size and reputation of our own should send out a report of 3½ pages, or, including that of the school of c. School of Science, 10 pages! We should not object to this mere official record of the year being inserted in the Education Department's A ment's Annual Report, if something more respectable was issued by the reby the University authorities. But the 10-page abstract is the only yearly yearly record which is ever given to the public or to the graduates of the Hamiltonian second which is ever given to the public or to the graduates of the University, who, as a body, know next to nothing from year of the University, who, as a body, know next to nothing from year to year of what goes on in the University, what changes are made, what imwhat improvements are effected, what benefactions or gifts have been received, or what the needs and requirements of the University and :... Much of the apathy so sity and its many departments really are. Much of the apathy so often complained of as existing among the graduates of our University is large and the graduates of our University is large. versity is largely to be attributed to this very cause—no one knows, or is vary or is very seldom told, officially, what goes on or what is wanted.

An atternal An attempt was made last summer, on the part of private individuals, to do away with this reproach in some degree by the issue of year book. Year books, but owing to the fact of their being private undertakings, they only partially succeeded, and the results have not been such as to anch as to encourage like enterprizes in the future. tity of Toronto should issue annually a complete and detailed Re-Port containing full information about all its departments—their condition and full information about all its departments—their condition and needs—with details of the doings of the Senate and out-Other governing bodies, containing criticisms of the past and outlining the lining the policy for the future. Harvard University issues an annual report aual report—almost as large as the entire report of the Minister of Education—which is sent to anyone upon application, and which contains de-which is sent to anyone upon application, and which contains descriptive and statistical statements from the Deans of each school, laboratory each Faculty and from the Directors of each school, laboratory ther with Rether with a very complete summary of the whole by the Presi-

dent. To this is added a detailed statement concerning the funds of the University, their investment and the incomes derivable therefrom. Indeed, the report of Harvard is by far the most comprehensive and most valuable one made by any college on this continent, and is not only interesting and instructive, but next to that of the U. S. Commissioner of Education, the best educational report—with regard to secondary and higher education—issued in the United States. There is no good reason that we can see why the University of Toronto should not issue as good a report as Harvard, and why it should not, in this way, advertise itself, its requirements, and, above all, its advantages.

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

The Editors are not responsible for the opinions of correspondents. No notice will be taken of unsigned contributions.

#### POLITICAL SCIENCE IN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

To the Editors of THE VARSITY.

SIRS,—In your editorial article of the 4th of February on this snbject, you refer your readers to your advertising columns for the information that "the long-wished for chair of Political Economy" is to be established almost immediately. If any of your readers care to look up the advertisement they will find that it is for "a Professor of Political Science," not of Political Economy, and that "Political Economy" is only one of a quartette of sub-departments assigned to the proposed chair, the other three being "Comparative Politics," "International Law," and "History"—I presume Constitutional History.

It can hardly be from mere inadvertence that you fall into this error, for I find it running all through the article above referred to, and also through one a fortnight later. You speak of the importance of "Economics" in a commercial country, of the different trade theories that have divided political parties, and of the possibility that the candidate chosen may turn out to be a mere "tutor in Political Economy." Only in the most casual way do you give any intimation that other subjects besides this one are to be assigned to the new chair, and then you err by naming two that are not mentioned in the advertisement, and only one that is. That one is "International Law;" the other two are "Constitutional Law," and "Jurisprudence." If the Minister of Education is as much at sea on the subdivisions of Political Science as the writer of these articles, it will be hard to say what he expects the successful candidate for the chair to be able to teach.

Nor are your errors of little importance. If they had been so I would not have noticed them. So far from being the only subject to be dealt with by the chair, "Political Economy" is not even the most important of the four. It is, in fact, the least so from the teaching-law-faculty point of view, and but for the desire to create such a faculty there would have been no proposal just now to establish a chair of Political Science. No philosophical study of law in Ontario is possible without an accurate knowledge of the constitutional history of England, Canada, and the United States. This is peculiarly the case with all those matters in which the principle of federalism is involved, and every student of Canadian Constitutional History knows that the meaning of the Imperial Statute, which is our charter, has been settled, so far as it is settled at all, by a long succession of judicial decisions. During the past few years the proportion of American cases cited in our courts of law has rapidly increased, and intending barristers will always find in Constitutional History at once the most satisfactory explanation of this fact and the most useful introduction to this kind of practice.

I need not stop to point out the importance of International Law. In some of its principles and rules we have only such an interest as a quasi-national status can give us, but we have a very practical interest in such matters as the extradition of criminals, the legal status in one country of persons married or divorced in another, the laws which regulate allegiance and citizenship, the means by which contracts may be internationally enforced, and the principles regulating the descent of realty and personalty when the heir is in one country and the property in another. All this is of far greater practical importance to a lawyer than the laws which regulate the production and distribution of wealth.

Of not less importance is the sub department of Comparative Politics, which has to deal with the origin and development of legal conceptions and legal institutions, as well as political conceptions and political institutions. One object of Comparative Politics is to arrive by a study of sociological phenomena at the theory of the State. A list of the great writers who have treated this theme without giving much attention to economics is sufficient to show how important it is. In such a list we find the names of Plato,

Aristotle, Cicero, More, Bacon, Hobbes, Locke, Bentham, Burke, Buckle, Maine, Grotius, Macchiavelli, Montesquieu, Rousseau, Spinoza, Hegel, Bluntschli, Hamilton, Madison, Jefferson, Story and Kent. The mere mention of these names is enough to show that the subject they dealt with is one of great human interest; even a cursory knowledge of their writings will convince any one of the value of this sub-department of Political Science as a pre-

paration for legal training.

The mistake of elevating Political Economy into an unduly prominent position in the list of subjects assigned to the professorship you have paralleled by giving to "trade theories" undue prominence in Political Economy. Every real student of economic science knows that the whole subject of international exchanges, difficult and important as it is, can no more be mistaken for Political Economy than the Queen's Park can be mistaken for the ci y of Toronto. The delusion that finds expression in your articles is common enough outside of the University; why should you lend it any countenance in your columns, and then arouse baseless prejudices against the new Chair before it comes into existence? To do this is, I submit, alike unfair to the prospective incumbent and injurious to the College. Such treatment of a great science is as indefensible as would be a similar warning respecting the chair of Biology, based on the fear that its occupant might be a disciple of Darwin or Wallace.

WM. HOUSTON.

Toronto, Feb. 20th, 1888.

#### THE POLITICAL SCIENCE CHAIR.

#### To the Editors of THE VARSITY :-

SIRS,—Permit me to say a few words on the question of the much needed professorship in Political Science. The ques-tion is, shall the professor be Canadian or foreign? It is alleged that a Canadian should not be appointed because, being born in our own country, he must of necessity be blinded by party politics. Now, if this is a legitimate argument, it follows, as a matter of consistent reason, that, now and forever, such professorship is untenable by a Canadian. The difficulty might be surmounted by selecting a few choice infants, anchoring them somewhere in mid-ocean, loading them up with Adam Smith and then importing them again, free of all the "contamination" of Canadian politics, free of duty and in absolute ignorance of the country where the abstract principles of Political Economy are to be applied.

Where is the country under heaven that knows what freedom is, which does not enjoy the rights of discussion and, consequently, great political parties? Is Canadian character such a frail thing that, having enjoyed the freedom of letters, it falls while the European, by some mysterious exaltation, escapes the "contamination" of Politics. "Prejudice is often stronger than reason." The young man, who is not made more rational by a university course, had better get a ring in his nose at once, and let his prejudices lead him around with the rope of inheritance for the rest of his life. Besides, Political Economy is a science, and there is no need of its professors being partizan if the salary renders the mindependent of party politics. As for the unfortunate youngsters that have been suckled on the political bottle, if they are not prepared to accept the science, they had better take another course. I do not believe in giving the chair to a Canadian only because he is a Canadian. It must be given only to a competent man. But if there is a Canadian with the natural ability to fill the chair, then he has the prior claim, for his salary comes out of the hard earnings of Canadians. It must be remembered also that such a chair provides the advantages of future study which must compensate in time for any temporary want of training in the sience due to unavoidable circumstances. A salary sufficient for support, and time sufficient for research, must make any man, even of ordinary ability, an authority in his chosen branch of knowledge.

There is undiscovered ground in all branches. Why should we

starve Canadian genius and fatten foreigners, the glory of whose achievements Canada can never claim? Why should we drive our men away to fill chairs in the United S ates, and refuse them admittance within our own University? Let it be known that Canadians are preferred and Canadians will straightway prepare themselves for such important positions. Must we supply the money and some other country supply the brains? Surely this is humiliation. Have we muscles and no brains? Can we only make money and no thoughts? The sooner we think for ourselves the greater and more honourable our country will become. Is our University to be a shelf for foreign scholars, or is it to be a developer of Canadian thought? You can no more make a Canadian out of an imor than you can a white man out of a negro. Let us hope there is too much character here for the Cockney language, or for the Gaelic dialect that sounds to ears uninitiated into its harmonies about as sweet as the bag-pipes, or for the sentiment of adoration for a piece of Irish bog. To those who are worthy

of the name of Canadians the rose, the thistle or the shamrock can never weave the spell of the Maple Leaf. To them, the George's, St. Andrew's and St. Patrick's Day can never have the meaning of Dominion Day. And if there is any mission for our universitie, what greater mission can there be than the making of a nation? of a nation? Ontarians are continually prating about French domination, when the fact is that French-Canadians are truer in heart and literature to the great idea of Canadians are truer it. heart and literature to the great idea of Canadian nationality. is a well-known fact that the University which boasts itself to be the most like Oxford the M the most like Oxford, the most English, is the one that continually terms our University the "godless college," It is not a godless college, but it is a creedless college, where we all as young Canadians, no matter what our creeds may be, may meet on common ground, and forget the isolating creeds in the patriotic thought of ground, and forget the isolating creeds in the patriotic thought of a common birth and association. a common birth and associations. Time will prove that second to the United States we have with the United States we have within our territories the material possibilities of being the greatest nation on the formatches. With bilities of being the greatest nation on the face of the globe.

The post Europe are confident within comparatively small areas.

Sessions of England are scattered and held together by the uncersain bond of her florest are together by the uncersain bond of her florest are together by the uncersain bond of her florest are together by the uncersain bond of her florest are together by the uncersain bond of her florest areas and more together by the uncersain bond of her florest areas are together by the uncersain bond of her florest areas are together by the uncersain bond of her florest areas are together by the uncersain bond of her florest areas are together by the uncersain bond of her florest areas are together by the uncersain bond of the post of th sessions of England are scattered and held together by the uncertain bond of her fleets, which bond tends more and more to weaken with the progress of invention. It was the discovery of the New World that ruined Venice, and the expansion of America means the comparative decline of European nations, and more especially the maritime powers. The time seems to be coming when, instead of Europe carrying the products of the East to us, America will carry the products of the East to Europe.

We possess perhaps the shortest route to the East. The sea is

too broad and our country too great in resources to be always a colony. Our University must be a national one, not a colonial one. We cannot afford to have the growth of our national spirit tampered with or delayed. We must have a colonial one, not a colonial one, not a colonial one, not a colonial one. we cannot afford to have the growth of our national spirit tampered with or delayed. We must have our professors in touch with Canadianism. It is a pleasure to know that the professors and and lectureships are being filled by Canadians in education associations. It is the dawn of our University's true greatness, and when her mission is fulfilled, she will be one of the proudest, if not the proudest ornament of the nation.

PHILLIPS STEWART.

## THE CHAIR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE.

SIRS,—The sentiments in Rev. G. M. Wrong's letter in last week's VARSITY are somewhat surprising.

That care should be exercised in the selection of a professor of Political Science no one will deny; but that there is any reason to doubt that the Minister of Education and his advisers will give the deny. matter all the care and attention necessary a great many will deny.

when Mr. Wrong says plainly that no resident of Canada is fitted

When Mr. Wrong says plainly that no resident of Canada is fitted to fill the proposed chair, he lays himself open to the serious charge of pleading for some person or some class, a suspicion which he only escapes by being Dean of Wycliffe.

It is certainly unfortunate that public opinion in the been such that all expression of independent individual opinion been very difficult, and that a man, to earn his bread by the labout of his brain, must have been obliged to identify himself, to some exof his brain, must have been obliged to identify himself, to some exof his brain, must have been obliged to identify himself, to some exof his brain, must have been obliged to identify himself, to some exof his brain, must have been obliged to identify himself, to some exof his brain, must have been obliged to identify himself, to some exof his brain, if he has precaused his honour and integrity, and be possessed of soundness of judgment, first-class ability, and wide knowledge of the subjects of judgment, first-class ability, and wide knowledge of the subjects of judgment, first-class ability, and wide knowledge of the subjects of judgment, first-class ability, and wide knowledge of the subjects of judgment, first-class ability, and wide knowledge of the subjects of judgment, first-class ability, and wide knowledge of the subjects of judgment, first-class ability, and wide knowledge of the subjects of judgment, first-class ability, and wide knowledge of the subjects of judgment, first-class ability, and wide knowledge of the subjects of judgment, first-class ability, and wide knowledge of the subjects of judgment, first-class ability, and wide knowledge of the subjects of judgment, first-class ability, and the possessed of soundaries and provide in the secondaries ability and the possessed of soundaries and provide in the secondaries and pr

the truth and proselytize for this or that party.

Suppose that Mr. Wrong is right in his opinion, and Islands, that a non-resident applicant is living in the Cannibal Islands where man-eating has a firm hold of the social science of the country. It is clear that this gentleman has but two alternatives before him: he must be or not be a compiled (in opinion or practice). him; he must be or not be a cannibal (in opinion or practice), the may be the former, and he may become professor of political may be the former, and he may become professor of might work science. In that event who knows what havoc he might work among the dainties of University College?

By all means let us leave this matter entirely to the authorities of the Government and the University, who are wise enough, hest have interest enough at stake, to ensure their making the selection. GORDON WALDRON.

## UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE NEWS.

All reports from Societies must reach us by noon on Thursday to secure

#### MISS KNOX'S READINGS.

Miss Agnes Knox will make her debut as a professional reader in Association Hall, on Monday evening, the 5th of March. following is the programme which Miss Knox will give:

PART I.
I. Scene from the Lady of Lyons,
2. Death of Constance,
4. Scene from Macbeth; Act I, sc. v. Shakespeare 5. Cuddle Description
5. Cuddle Doon,
PART II.
1. Aux Italiens, Lytton 2. Kitty Malanay on the Chinese Question Dodge
2. Kitty Maloney on the Chinese Question Dodge 3. Sim's Linda Circ
3 Sim's Little Girl, Apon
4. How "Ruby" Played,
5. This Canada of Ours

#### GLEE CLUB.

On Friday afternnoon, February 24th, the regular practice was On Friday afternnoon, February 24th, the regular practice was held, and was attended by a large number of members, and, under the direction of Mr. Schuch, music for that evening and for the Carlton St. Church service was practised. On Friday evening an the club rendered two selections at Wycliffe College, and These numbers around so acceptable that encores were demanded. the club rendered two selections at the Varsity-Queen's, debate. These numbers proved so acceptable that encores were demanded, and in response to the second encore, "Kingdom Coming" was given, take it, fairly "bringing down the house." The attendance of so many members at these late practices is extremely gratifying to the committee and promises a splendid club next year.

A German meeting of the Modern Language Club was held on Modern Language Club was held on Waldron, in the chair. Monday, February 20th, the President, Mr. Waldton, in the chair.
The literary properties of an Essay on Freytag's great The literary 20th, the President, Mr. Waldton, in the chan. The literary programme consisted of an Essay on Freytag's great tae same author by Mrs. R. S. Bonner, and readings from announced that a public meeting would be held on Monday, Ach 5th.

A French meeting of the Modern Language Club was held on Monday, Feb. 27th, the president, Mr. Waldron, in the chair. Mr. Macmehan. Of Johns Hopking University, on the memorial service. Cody opened the meeting by reading an excellent essay by Mr. Macmehan, of Johns Hopkins University, on the memorial sersidates held lately in Baltimore in honour of the poet-musician, address on Chateaubriand, the subject of the meeting. Mr. Réné, and Mr. Macdonald concluded with a well-chosen reading from the same work. A public meeting of the society will be ject for discussion.

The Engineering Society held its regular meeting on Tuesday in the School of Science. Mr. F. W. Babington read a paper upon in which he showed the marked analogy which exists between water pelled ctricity considered as motive powers, and by doing this dissement a great deal of the doubt and uncertainty which always with it. One of the most interesting parts of the est was nortacontaining a description of the Telpherage system of transportation. This system is now in use in several mining works, and, until law electrical transportation systems, does not necessitate of one single a permanent road-bed and track. The track consists no single a permanent road-bed and track. the other electrical transportation systems, do not single line of small steel rails supported in much the same pended from this rail by means of a traveller wheel. The current steel rails supported in the track consists manner as telegraph lines are, and the buckets or trucks are suspended from this rail by means of a traveller wheel. The current rails are the motor in the trucks. pended from this rail by means of a traveller wheel. The current and the motor in the truck, passes from this rail by means of a traveller wheel. The canada thence out generator along the rail into the motor in the truck, thence out generator along the rail and back into the generator. The and thence out again into the rail and back into the generator. The Current passing through the truck motor causes it to revolve, and travel along the motor to a small driving wheel the truck is made to tode. tayel along the motor to a small driving wheel the truck is made to tods, the same current may be made to operate the trucks on a of the lighting of mines by incandescent and arc lamps, of the admits the same current may be made to operate the trucks on a same current may be made to operate the trucks on a of the lighting of mines by incandescent and arc lamps, of the admits the same current may be made to operate the trucks on a same current may be made to operate the trucks on a same current may be made to operate the truck is made to the same current may be made to operate the truck is made to operate the truck of the operate the truck is made to operate the truck of the operate the truck is made to of the lighting of mines by incandescent and arc lamps, of the ad-altages of electricity over compressed air for operating boring

machines and percussion rock drills, and also of the many advantages which electricity possesses for directly extracting, or for aiding the extraction of the various metals from their ores. sell presented the society with an original table in the laying out of railway curves without a transit, and read a short paper describing the method of using the table.

#### INTER-COLLEGIATE DEBATES.

## TORONTO V. QUEEN'S.

The inter-collegiate debate between representatives of University The inter-collegiate debate between representatives of University College, Toronto, and Queen's College, Kingston, took place on Friday evening, the 24th of February, in Convocation Hall. Prof. Goldwin Smith occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance. The proceedings were opened with a recitation by Mr. Wilson McCann, entitled "Robert Emmett." The Glee Club sang a selection and Mr. II. C. Boultbee read an essay on "The Novel." The Chairman announced the subject for debate, which was,

"Resolved, That the American system of governmen is superior

to the British."

Mr. T. A. Gibson opened the debate on the affirmative for Toronto. He said that as Canadians we must consider that, although we have a British system of government, it was largely modified by that of the United States. The American system embraced all that was good in the British system. The powers of the President of the United States were curtailed by Congress to a greater extent than the prerogatives of the British sovereign were limited by the British House of Commons. The American senators were compared with the House of Lords at the expense of the latter. Many other points of difference in the systems of govern-

ment were referred to by the speaker.

Mr. E. H. Horsey, of Queen's, for the negative, proceeded to show that the British constitution was the greatest of all constitution. tions for the advancement of civilization and humanity. It taught the people to honour and respect the sovereign, but it at the same time gave them the privilege of deposing the chief ruler. Whilst such a sovereign was deposed for the benefit of his subjects, the President of the United States was deposed by the influence of a faction. He defended the House of Lords, and compared the responsible executive of England to the irresponsible executive of

the United States.

Mr. Waldron followed for the affirmative in a strong speech,

which was well received.

Mr. J. W. Patterson, of Queen's, for the negative, denied that the British Government was in touch with the people. He dealt forcibly with the arguments advanced by the speakers for the affirmative.

Mr. Gibson spoke for five minutes in reply.

Prof. Goldwin Smith delivered a concise dissertation on the American and English systems of government, and resumed his seat without deciding the debate, as was expected. A vote of thanks to the chairman was moved by Mr. Gibson and seconded by Mr. Horsey, who took occasion to say that it was understood by the Queen's men that Mr. Smith would decide the debate on the merits of the addresses of the speakers. This being warmly applauded by the audience, Mr. Smith arose and declined to give any decision, adroitly avoiding the merits of the speakers and dwelling upon the subject of debate per se. Much dissatisfaction was expressed at this by many of the audience and by the deligates from Queen's College, as a decision by the chairman was one of the conditions of the Inter-collegiate debating system.

## WYCLIFFE US. OSGOODE.

One of the largest audiences that ever assembled in Wycl-ffe One of the largest audiences that ever assembled in Wycliffe College was gathered together in Convocation Hall, on Friday evening, the 24th of February, when a most interesting programme was presented. Mr. Justice Street was expected to preside, but owing to that gentleman's sudden illness the position of chairman was filled by Rev. G. M. Wrong, B.A. Mr. Fullerton, President of Osgoode Legal and Literary Society, occupied a seat on the platform. The evening's programme opened with an octette, "The Two Roses," which was admirably rendered by Messrs. Mercer, Boyd, Owen, Kent, Richardson, Marani, W. H. Graham and J. D. Graham. Next on the programme was a reading by Mr. F. M. Holmes, followed by a song, "Only Once More," by Mr. M. S. Mercer, B.A. Mr. J. O. Miller read an essay on "Humorous Poetry," which was followed by a voilin solo, "Romance et Bolero," by Miss F. V. Keys, who played her number very pleasingly. The principal part of the evening's programme, however, was a debate between representatives from the Osgoode Literary and Legal Society and Wycliffe College Society. The subject was a resolution to the effect that "Trades Unions are Beneficial." The affirmative was ably sustained by Messrs. H. L. Dunn, B.A., and E. E. A. Du Vernet, on behalf of Osgoode; Messrs. E. C. Acheson and W. A. Frost, M.A., of Wycliffe, arguing in favour of the negative. After a somewhat lengthy discussion the chairman summed up and declared the result to be drawn. College was gathered together in Convocation Hall, on Friday up and declared the result to be drawn.

#### GENERAL COLLEGE NOTES.

The Review, published at Oxford University, is the only English college journal edited by undergraduates.

President Timothy Dwight has received a \$20,000 gift for Yale University from Alexander Duncan, of London, who was graduated in 1825. Mr. Duncan states that he desires the money to be used in providing immediate necessities of the University.

Newton Theological Seminary, founded in 1825, has sixty-one students, of whom eight are in the senior class, eighteen in the middle class and twenty-three in the junior class. Of the seniors two are graduates of Brown University, one of Harvard, one of Of the seniors Cornell and two of Colby.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of Vassar College were surprised last week by the receipt of the resignation by Professor Maria Mitchell, of the chair of astronomy held by her, she insisting upon her need of rest. They at once laid the resignation on the table, passed a resolution giving her an indefinite leave of absence, and directing the payment to her of the entire salary of the professorship until the Board of Trustees, at its June meeting, shall take further action. Professor Mitchell has laboured in the cause of science for half a century, one-quarter of a century having been passed at Vassar College. having been passed at Vassar College.

It is said that of the 120 Chinese youths who were sent to American colleges in detachments of thirty, under the charge of the Chinese Commission, all but about a dozen have obtained positions in their own country in different departments of the Government, as civil engineers or as naval officers or teachers in the naval school. Of the few who returned to this country, the majority are Chinese Consuls; some are attached to the Chinese Legation. One, Hong Yen Chang, a graduate of the Columbia Law School, is striving for admission to the Bar in New York.

#### Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

The following very interesting letter has been received from Rev J. H. Messmore, missionary at Bareily, India, and which we are sure will be of interest to the readers of The Varsity. Mr. Messmore is the father of our fellow-student, Mr. Frank Messmore, '89. Bareily, Oct. 1st, 1887.

To the officers and members of the Missionary Association of the Y. M. C. A., University College, Toronto.

My Dear Friends,—As I am a Canadian and have been for 27 years a missionary in India, it is not inappropriate for me to send you a fraternal communication. I have noticed with much interest the increasing attention given to mission work by College students in both Eugland and America, and I was much pleased to find the name of Toronto standing so high in the list of places that had responded to the appeal for missionary candidates, sent out by the deputation from Princeton Seminary. It is eminently fitting that Universities should be centres of missionary interest, for the conditions of Christian Propagandism require a high grade of scholarship on the part of those who would engage in such work. This is especially true of India, and it is the plain duty of every young man who is thinking of becoming a missionary to secure the highest man who is thinking of becoming a missionary to secure the highest possible literary equipment for the work. The 20th century will be a very earnest one in more than one part of the earth. It begins to look as though all the unsettled questions of the past, together with a perplexing number of new ones, were to be precipitated upon us. Social Science and Theology are the foci upon which will centre the chief attention of the armies in the conflict, and the Peninsula of India will, I think, be the area of the hottest strife. I cannot say that I altogether envy the men who will work as Christian missay that I atogether envy the men who will work as Christian missionaries in India during the 20th century. All the materials of a "first-class row" are rapidly forming in this country, and the angel of peace is spreading his wings in anticipation of a long flight and very uncertain return. We have here five universities, matriculating more than five thousand yearly. In a few years the number of university-educated men in India will be reckoned by hundreds of thousands, and this vast army of brilliant men, cut loose from their ancestral faiths, clamorous for political independence and religious freedom, and utterly destitute of reverence for anything except their own opinions, will make it very hot for whatever government may be in power, and for all those who shall attempt any sort of religious leadership or propagandism among them. Arguments from authority will have little weight with these men, and the Christian preacher, teacher, or philosopher who hopes to work among them must be prepared to give a reason for the hope that is within him. A large proportion of the European and native professors in the colleges of India are non-Christian, if not anti-Christian, and hence the influence of these schools is largely hostile to Christianity. The

philosophy, the philology, ethnology, physics taught are all made to work in some way or other against Christianity. The missionary who wins converts to Christ from these colleges will need a very broad equipment of average the large of the colleges. very broad equipment of extra-theological learning to fit him for his work. You are a missionary association of the Y. M. C. A. This is a very promising consociation of the Y. M. anaged This is a very promising consociation of effort. A well-managed Y. M. C. A is a velveble training. Y. M. C. A. is a valuable training school for the missionary recruit. Were I selecting missionary recruits I would be unwilling to take any man who had not already. any man who had not already, by activity in city mission work or in the Y. M. C. A., shown his personal interest in the spiritual welfare of the people about him. If a man has the missionary spirit in him, he will be a missionary wherever he is, whether in Toronto or Lucknow. On this account I feel that your acceptation is the or Lucknow. On this account I feel that your association is the right thing in the right place, and that from among your number missionaries of the right stamp will be found. missionaries of the right stamp will be found

J.-H. MESSMORE

#### IGNORANCE OF THE BIBLE.

A Cambridge student, when examined upon the Inspiration of the Bible, was asked, "What connection he remembered between the Old and New Testament?" He answered "That only one came to his recollection and that "The answered the came to his recollection and that "The answered the came to his recollection and that "The answered the came to his recollection and that "The answered the came to his recollection and the came to his r came to his recollection, and that was the fact that Peter cut off the ear of the prophet Malachi."

#### LOVE-THE SUPREME CIFT.

Love is not a thing of emotion and gush. It is a robust, strong, vigorous expression of the whole character and nature in its fullest development. And these thinse vigorous expression of the whole character and nature in its fullest development. And these things are only to be acquired by daily and hourly practice. Don't quarrel, therefore, with your lot in life. Don't quarrel with the quality you have of life. Don't be angre that you have to go through a network of temptation—that you are haunted with it every day. That is your practice, which God appoints you. That is your practice, and it is having its work in making you patient, and humble, and sincere, and unselfish, that kind, and generous, and guileless. Don't begrudge the hand kind, and generous is mage in you; it is growing more beautiful; and every touch is adding to its perfection. Keep in the indicated of life. Don't isolate yourself. Be among men, and among things, and among troubles, and amongst difficulties, and obstacles. things, and among troubles, and amongst difficulties, and obstacles. You remember Goethe's words: "Talent develops itself in solitude"—the talent of prayer, of faith. "Character in the stream of life." That is where you are to learn love.—Drummond at Northfield.

## ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE VARSITY is conducted by undergraduates of the University of Toronto, and will appear every Saturday of the academic year It aims at being the exponent of the views of the University Public and will almost a view of the University Public The and will always seek the highest interests of our University. Literary Department will, as heretofore, be a main feature. of all news columns are full news columns are full and accurate, containing reports of all meetings of interest to its meetings of interest to its readers.

This week Mr. Keefer's article on Engineering is given. profesweek it is expected that Mr. Seath's paper on The Teaching profession will appear "D". sion will appear. "Dryburgh Abbey" is concluded in this issue.

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Rondel. GWYN ARAUN. The University and the Professions. II. Engineering. SAMUEL KERFER.

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University and College News. Y. M. C. A. Notes College News.

Di-Varsities.



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