

# CONTENTS

- The Start
- Co-education in University College,  
**BY WILLIAM HOUSTON, M.A.**
- The Patriarch Student
- The International Fishery Exhibition, Berlin,  
**BY PROF. RAMSAY WRIGHT**
- Varsity Sport.

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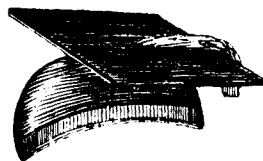
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# THE 'VARSITY:

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF

EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY POLITICS AND EVENTS.

No. 1. Vol. 1.

October 7th, 1880.

Price 5 cts.

## THE START.

A few years ago, a series of brilliant essays appeared in the *New York Times*, which enhanced the reputation at once of the writer and of the paper. They were subsequently collected and published together in a single volume with the remarkable preface:—"I have been urged to unite these dissertations in book-form by the wishes of numerous and malignant enemies." By contrast are we reminded of this literary incident. The *'Varsity* starts on its career unattended by malevolence and amid the hearty "God-speed-you" of friends. The chief incentive, however, has not been encouragement, but the consciousness of a capability to supply what is beginning to be looked upon as a trustworthy indication of vigor and intensity of life in a university. We lay bare the spring of action with a reluctant hand, because exposition of motives is, not infrequently, mistaken for indulgence in an apologetic strain. An appeal to charitable forbearance would be sinister to any statement regarding the opportuneness of the *'Varsity's* appearance. If there is conviction as to such a statement having foundation in fact, then all color of extenuation should be bleached from the above-given exposition. Indifference to the misapprehension we have anticipated might also be taken to argue against adequacy of conception with respect to our proper sphere of employment. The present undertaking is meant to serve advantageously the general good of a community whose professed passport to consideration is intellectuality of character. The first impression conveyed by this declaration may be, that the claim advanced is pre-eminently arrogant; that the implied assumption of competence to act efficiently in this field of operation is destitute of any respectable warrant. We hasten with the corrective. The justness of the impression would be unimpeachable if the *'Varsity* presumed to pose as the guiding star, as the interpreter even, of a Canadian school-board, or of graduate and undergraduate humanity. In reality our intentions are very demure: not a guiding star, not an interpreter, but a *register* of opinion in and out of the University in matters of education; an unbiassed annalist of University life; and, in this last connexion, a strenuous advocate of what constitutes individual well-being. Efficiency from each of these points of view will demand from the undergraduates intellectual effort of no small significance. The maintenance also of a passable standard of excellence is not to be reasonably expected, unless such effort is supplemented by highly-participative exertion on the part of the graduates. Finally, there is needed the moral accessory of strongly-expressed sanction from the generation whose recollections of academic life have become gilded athwart the distance of many intervening years. Few will be disposed to detect extravagance in these stipulations; a close spirit of exaction would be inconsistent with the enlightenment of an auditory gathered round a prominent seat of learning. At most, insistence will be laid on the conventional engagements of full liberty of discussion and fair play—engagements which are entered upon in an earnest spirit of determination to abide by in these columns. At the same time we decline to offer a field for the exhibition of religious proclivities, and to afford an outlet to the ardency of youthful political partisans.

Set phrases and popular formulas, however acceptable to the multitude, act as irritants when appealing exclusively to an educated audience of men and women. Hence, in forecasting the course of the *'Varsity* the affectation of very precise language has been discarded. Yet we have an avowal to make which barely escapes the stereotyped form: Whatever element of ambition or audacity lies latent in our programme, it is wholly bound up in the desire that the UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO shall possess the best university paper in America and an unrivalled index of the progress of educational systems.

ON occasions like the CONVOCATION feast last June the toast, 'The Ladies,' is at best a mere sentimental variation of after-dinner oratory, and it was derogatory to the lady-students who obtained distinction in the examinations to be principally expatiated on only then. The proper place for the well-deserved allusions in their regard was in the toast, 'The Honor-Men of the Year.' If there happen to be honor women next May it is to be hoped this ungracious discrimination will not recur.

IN the course of one of his after-dinner speeches, on the same evening, Hon. EDWARD BLAKE remarked:—"I am glad to hear that there is a good prospect for placing, upon a sound foundation, the University paper. I am sure I need not do more than heartily commend that enterprise to the support of all the friends of this University, whether graduates or others. I hope all the old graduates will exhibit that interest in it which is involved in becoming subscribers, and seeing what the young men are doing in the way of work and of play as well." We not infrequently meet with men prolific in the language of sympathy; but few have our respected Chancellor's happy knack of giving a helping hand precisely at the right moment.

OF the changes in the constitution of the Literary and Scientific Debating Society, proposed and carried last April, Mr. LYDGATE'S Reform Bill bears the palm in comprehensiveness of character and force of disintegration. The discussion provoked, though of painful length, was certainly not out of proportion to the radical import of the subject. The measure was, in the opinion of its advocates, appropriate and opportune, principally because of the unwieldy bulk to which the Society had grown. Beyond a certain point, it was contended, increase of numbers is a fatal obstruction to the proceedings of an assembly when the *raison d'être* of its coming together is the debate. The greater the attendance at a meeting the more prolonged is the business preliminary to the chief object of the meeting. The presence of large numbers, also, often effectually daunts ambition to appear in the bema. The soundness of these general arguments, together with their application in the present instance, was not disputed; the opponents of the measure wisely contented themselves with assailing the proposed remedy and the remarkable special pleading which formed its attempted justification. Why the men of the Third and Fourth Years should be sacrificed, as they practically are by the employed division, to the interest of the first and second years is not obvious. It was urged by two or three of the speakers on Mr. LYDGATE'S side that the bashfulness of juvenile Undergraduates was not likely to be dispelled in the solemn presence of the members of the fourth years. The self-denying inference was drawn that Third Year men should henceforth act as monitors in the debating art for these delicately-reticent youths. Nevertheless a fair trial is to be given the scheme. It will certainly offer more opportunities for speaking at the Friday night meetings, though it will somewhat reduce the number of hearers. The Committee appointed to revise and harmonize the Constitution have already met several times, and will send in a report during the week. The complete recitation of the Bill is ready for the printer, and, after the adoption of the report, members should be able to procure a copy of the new Constitution within a few days. The many difficulties already obstructing the working of the new machinery will become insuperable, unless the members of the Society are in a position to know its intricacies.

## CO-EDUCATION IN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

The question of the co-education of the sexes in Colleges for the training of adults is still a vexed one, and some time must elapse before it can be regarded as finally disposed of. Many who think it quite proper for boys and girls under a certain age, not only to pursue the same studies, but mingle together on the same play-ground at school, are strenuously opposed to a much more limited intermingling of the sexes at Colleges where the students are young men and women. They object on a variety of grounds which may, however, all be classed as physical, intellectual and moral.

They contend that woman is literally, in body, at all events, so much the "weaker vessel" that it would endanger the health of young ladies to attend the courses of lectures and go through the course of reading presented for young men undergoing collegiate training; and, by way of proof, they point to the many alleged instances of male students who have ruined their constitutions and shortened their lives by too close application to College work. Closely connected with this is the objection based on differences, assumed or proven, between the male and

female intellect. It is contended on the one hand that a course of study which would be the best for a young man is necessarily not the best for a young woman, regarded simply as a student, and on the other that the intellectual training best calculated to educate the man for his future position in life is not the one best calculated to prepare the woman for her ultimate sphere. But the gravest objections are those based on moral grounds. It is claimed that the promiscuous intermingling of members of both sexes in the College lecture rooms and corridors would lead to intrigues fatal to those who indulged in them and to scandals ruinous to the institution which tolerated so lax a system.

The vigorous and persistent discussions of the last few years, together with the unquestionable success of the co-educative system in certain well-known Colleges, has done much to weaken the force of these conservative contentions and to convince the public that they partake largely of the nature of bogies. As regards the physical and intellectual objections, the rapidly increasing number of instances in which young women hold their own with young men in such Universities as Cambridge and London cannot be got over. Miss SCOTT, who took a stand which would have secured her the position of eighth wrangler at Cambridge at the last graduation examination, had she belonged to the sterner sex, looks, from her portrait in the *London Graphic*, like an unusually healthy young English girl, both physically and intellectually, and apparently shows fewer traces of the severe struggle than some of the male students who were her competitors. In fact GIRTON College is a standing answer to those who confine themselves to objections of these two kinds, while it does nothing towards removing moral objections to co-education. With respect to them it must be said that the burden of proof rests on the objectors, who occupy the position of advocates of what is at least a non-natural system. The sexes intermingle in the family circle, they are allowed to intermingle at school, they intermingle as members of society, and yet the opponents of co-education take the ground that they must not be allowed to attend the same classes, read the same text-books, and pass the same examinations for fear of moral contamination. It must be admitted that the experience to appeal to on the other side is limited, but the testimony based on it is very unanimous and satisfactory.

This question has a deep practical interest for the patrons and students of University College at the present time. Owing to the statutory regulation requiring all winners of scholarships to attend lectures in some college affiliated to the University of Toronto, young ladies who entertain great expectations of what they can do in the competition for prizes would naturally prefer attending at UNIVERSITY College to attending anywhere else. They would thus enjoy the advantage of competing on equal terms for prizes during their under-graduate course, and of competing on equal terms for situations as teachers after they graduate. No lady has yet gone beyond the second year in the University curriculum, but it is only a question of a very short time when many of them will do so, and as no college affiliated to Toronto University is equipped for a third or fourth year course, it is easy to see that it is only a question of time when female under-graduates will be knocking at the door of University College for admission. It is reported that some now in attendance at High Schools and Collegiate Institutes actually contemplate making an early application. All friends of educational progress should hail such a movement with pleasure. The question of co-education must be fought out, before long, at and in University College, and the sooner the contest—if contest there is to be—is begun, the sooner will the uncertainty be over. Let a few young ladies muster courage to break the ice and they will soon find a numerous troop plunging in after them and the young gentlemen generously applauding their intrepidity. [WILLIAM HOUSTON.]

#### OBSERVATIONS BY THE PATRIARCH STUDENT.

DURING the vacation the museum has undergone considerable alteration. The wet *vertebrate* specimens have been collected on one side, and the *invertebrate*, including the magnificent series, from the *protozoa* to the *arthropoda*, brought by Professor Wright last year from Naples, have been removed to the other. The horns have been taken down and re-varnished and the heads reset in their places.

A manuscript catalogue of President WILSON'S archaeological and ethnological collections has been made, and, in a room just above his old private one, these hitherto locked up skulls and arrow-heads are now open to inspection. Prominent among the notable objects are three human brains, wholly and naturally preserved by Mr. PRIDE, by means of a new process, in which zinc sulphate and glycerine are among the reagents used.

THERE will be a special meeting of the University College Science Association on Tuesday evening next, for the purpose of nominating for

admission to the Society, undergraduates in science of the Second Year, from whom, afterwards, the representatives of that year to the Committee will be chosen; and of hearing the report of the General Committee on the distribution of magazines, &c., during the recent vacation. The first regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, 27th of October, when the new President, Mr. W. B. McMURRICH, will deliver his inaugural address.

\* \*

LAST year when the reading room was moved from the College to the building of the Literary and Scientific Society the change was unanimously condemned, and only a small number of those who before resorted thither availed themselves of it in its new locality. All will no doubt be glad to learn that Professor LOUDON'S old instrument room is to be a new receptacle for these erratic serials. It is to be hoped that our new Curator will not follow the bad example of his predecessors, but will endeavour to have the publications on the files early next week, will see that the pages are well cut, and that the profusion of thumb marks, as far as possible, be prevented from adding to the illustrations of the magazines.

\* \*

GENTLEMEN who have rooms in the Residence should be grateful to Mr. GOLDWIN SMITH for the following suggestion which occurs in his tract 'Oxford University Reorganization,' now out of print:—"For the domestic management of colleges there ought to be a good House Steward. It is impossible that literary men should effectually superintend the details of a boarding-house. Probably, the admission of the Undergraduates themselves, or of a committee of them, to a share in the management of their boarding would conduce at once to frugality and contentment." The plan is not new now-a-days. Its partial adoption at Harvard has verified, as I observed myself when visiting the place last year, the predictions of those who were enthusiastic for the introduction of the system.

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THE dramatic critic of the *Chronicle* is, I judge, either of a mild or of a very enthusiastic character. Without wishing to dispute the dictum that "Any criticism of Mr. BARRETT'S acting would be an unwarrantable assumption," I would yet suggest the allowance of some slight freedom of speech. Encouragement towards hazarding the suggestion can be obtained from the fact that his merits as an actor have not a world-wide reputation, as in the case of Mr. BOOTH and Mr. IRVING; and it has not been considered an "unwarrantable" presumption to notice slight defects in the performances of these gentlemen. But the writer in the *Chronicle* may be "satisfied" with Mr. BARRETT, to use one of the delicate phrases of æstheticism—a sort of satisfaction which is generally found to vent itself in peremptory assertions.

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—A meeting of the Graduates and undergraduates of the University of Toronto will be called sometime next week, to hear the report of the Committee appointed to organize a University Boat Club. Up to date subscriptions to the amount of \$746 have been promised, but this is too small a part of the estimated cost to warrant the continuation of the plans. It is entirely owing to inactivity and want of vigor on the part of the undergraduates that this much needed institution has failed to be established, for outside the members of the Committee only nine of them have subscribed, and the Committee have been alone in their endeavors to carry out the project. A general want of sympathy has caused the defeat of the scheme, which, had it been started at a time more convenient for canvassing and not so near examinations could, we believe, have been floated on the generosity of the graduates and friends of the University alone. Perhaps the movement was premature, perhaps the project is as yet impracticable, but surely this unwillingness on the part of the undergraduates to give it a fair trial and assist in making it a success, cannot be too strongly condemned.

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THE following autobiography, clipped from a local weekly, has been sent to me for publication:—"Mr. ———, of ———, has returned home after finishing his second year at the Toronto University, where he has been remarkably successful. In the Natural Science course he took one second and four first-class honors, making himself first prizeman. He was first at both College and University examinations in the sub-departments of mineralogy, geology and paleontology. He also took first-class honors in chemistry at the University examination, and first-class honors at both examinations in biology, including the sub departments of botany and zoology. He has now the standing of a third year honor graduate. We congratulate our young friend on his marked success thus far, and hope that his career may continue as brilliantly as it has begun!" (!!!) In conclusion I would just add, that if this third year honor undergraduate writes his honors at the fourth year examinations, both at College and

University examinations in Natural Science, in the departments of chemistry, biology, including botany and zoology, and in mineralogy, geology, and palaeontology, as successfully as he has done in the local paper of his native town, there cannot be the slightest doubt but that he will carry off the various prizes and gold medals of his year.

#### THE INTERNATIONAL FISHERY EXHIBITION IN BERLIN

Considering the small extent to which England and her Colonies were represented in this exhibition which took place in the early part of summer, it is possible that some of the features which interested me may have escaped the notice of the Press, and may therefore be new to the readers of the 'Varsity. The poor appearance which England made seems to have been owing to mismanagement on the part of the Committee in not making the extent and objects of the Exhibition sufficiently widely known, although a colleague suggested to me that, in the department of angling materials, at least, it could never have paid English manufacturers to advertise in a country so totally devoid of sporting instincts as Germany. Had Canada been more largely represented than it was, (I found only one exhibitor's name in the catalogue, Messrs. F. S. Andrews & Co., Halifax, *Neuschottland*—"Tinned Lobsters"), the characteristics of North American Fisheries could hardly have been more completely and systematically exhibited than they were in the Collective Exhibit of the U. S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries, which was indeed generally regarded as one of the most successful elements of the Exhibition.

The Exhibition was divided into two Sections, the one devoted to articles in forming the Collective-Exhibits of foreign countries, and the other to articles not belonging to these. Both Sections embraced the following classes:—

- I. Aquatic animals of all sorts, preserved or alive, and the products of these.
- II. Boats, implements and material of all sorts employed in Fisheries.
- III. Artificial breeding, and different stages of development of Fish.
- IV. Arrangements for transport of Fish.
- V. Arrangements for preserving and curing in all forms.
- VI. Models of Fishermen's houses and costumes.
- VII. Investigation of waters in relation to Fisheries.
- VIII. History of Fisheries.
- IX. Literature, Statistics, and Reports on Geographical distribution.

The perfection which has been attained by the authorities of the Zoological Gardens at Naples in preserving marine animals, rendered their collection, illustrative of the Mediterranean *fauna*, one of the best in the first class, although some collections on a smaller scale were also very successful. One in particular I noted, (a so-called Spiritarium), in which sea-anemones, jelly fishes, &c., beautifully preserved and distended, looked as if alcohol instead of sea-water were their natural medium.

The Berlin Aquarium, (the largest and most enterprising inland institution of the kind with which I am acquainted), had many interesting living forms on view, among them some male eels. A good deal of discussion has been raised within late years as to the mode of propagation of this fish, which perhaps excited more attention in Germany than elsewhere, as the eel is there regarded as a great delicacy. It was long thought to be hermaphrodite, as no difference could be detected in the large adult forms examined. It turns out now, however, that the males are small, rarely over 16 inches in length, and are to be found only in the sea, in the neighbourhood of the mouths of great rivers, or in these. A committee was appointed to report on the subject, information and specimens bearing upon it were advertised for, and a prize was offered for the solution of the question. A good many practical jokes seem to have arisen from the advertisement, as it was necessary to beg publicly that no further preparations should be sent to the members of the committee. Professor Virchow had, for instance, many nematoid worms from the intestines of eels sent to him in proof of the viviparity of the fish!

The facts referred to above have also been established by Professor Lackard and Mr. Kingsley with regard to the common American eel. I am not aware of any observations with regard to its breeding habits since its introduction into the Great Lakes.

In Class IV., the Berlin Aquarium exhibited a very complete apparatus for the transport of live fish. It consists of a tank capable of containing 24 tons of water, with two reservoirs of 12 tons each. One of the latter is placed higher than the large tank, but is connected with its floor in such a manner that the water on entering entangles air with it. The outflow, situated at the top of the transport tank, leads into the second reservoir, from which, in 15 minutes, it can be pumped into the first reservoir, while discharge from the latter into the transport tank lasts 3 or 4 hours. This arrangement ensures complete aeration of the water without a constant supply of fresh water, while it

does not give over hard work to the attendant. In this travelling aquarium 250 fish had been transported in the cars for three days and nights without a single one suffering.

The simpler arrangements which are adopted in the fish shops of large German towns for keeping fish fresh might well be imitated nearer home. Indeed, one may see the fish-hawker in Berlin fish out by means of a net from a tank, something like a water-cart, which he drives, several struggling carp, tench, pike, or pike-perch for the selection of the housewife, who thus is assured in the most practical way of their freshness.

In the 7th class, the exhibition of amber by Messrs. Stantien & Becken, from Königsberg, Prussia, where it is found more abundantly than anywhere else in the world, was most attractive, as was the collection of upwards of 3,000 "inclusions," exhibited by Dr. Sommerfeld, of the same place.

Prominent in class 8th were the papers as to privileges, &c., exhibited by various guilds; but one article, classified here, certainly secured more attention than these. It was the model of a huge pike 19 feet long, which was caught in the "Kaiser's Wog," near Kaiserslautern in 1497—the original of which was eaten at the Palgrave Philip's Electoral Table. It deserved a better fate, for 237 years before it had been placed in the water by the hand of the Emperor Frederic the II., and provided by him with a gilded band, bearing a Greek inscription to that effect, which was preserved in the Treasury at Heidelberg.

Professor Virchow's collection of shell-fish and fish-remains, dug out from the rubbish of the citadel mount, at Hissarlik, the probable site of Old Ilium, and partly from the oldest layers of the rubbish, prove that oysters, cockles and mussels frequently formed part of the *menus* of the Old Trojans. Among these shells some had evidently been used for purposes of ornament, and the purple-shells (*Murex* sp.) had all been opened in a particular manner, plainly having been used merely for the extraction of the once much-valued purple dye, which the animals produce, which, however, went out of use with the decline of the Roman Empire.

R. R. W.

#### 'Varsity Sport.

—MR. RANDOLPH, of Rutgers, informs me that the Athletic Association of American Colleges decided last April to admit Canadian Colleges to their union. No official notification of the resolution has as yet been received, which, however, is no obstacle to a recognition of the liberal spirit indicated by the measure. It is a new step on the part of the Association which marks activity of management and expansiveness of policy, whilst serving as an additional evidence of the friendly sentiment in our regard prevalent among our neighbors on the other side of the lake.

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The scores of the QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES BATTALION match, last Saturday, prove to be the best ever fired over the ranges by that regiment. An idea of the unpublished figures can be gained from the fact that sixty points secured only the eleventh prize. K. Company was represented by merely ten men, and want of practice in the new firing position,—head to the target,—placed this spare number at a great disadvantage. In the skirmishing match, G. Company stood first, with K. third, and it is rumored that one of our corporals is to get the first prize for judging distance. Next Saturday the firing will be completed, which will enable us to give more satisfactory details.

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—At the meeting Thursday, the following were elected a committee to arrange and carry out the Annual Athletic Sports this year:—President, Mr. ARMOUR; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. CAMPBELL; Representatives of the Fourth Year, Messrs. RUTTAN, GWYNNE and BLAKE; of the Third, Messrs. MICKLE, BLAKE and LANGSTAFF; of the Second, Messrs. GEORGE, MCKAY and BROADFOOT; of the freshmen, Messrs. NICOL, WYLIE and PRATT. The members of the various sub-committees were afterwards chosen. Some changes have been made in the programme of last year. For kicking the football a tug-of-war has been substituted, between teams of four men from each year, the first heats of which will take place to-day, and the final heat has been put in place of the three-legged race on the day of the major sports, Friday the 15th Oct.

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—The Chairman, Mr. RUTTAN, explained at length, the object of the gymnasium meeting on Thursday, stating that Dr. WILSON had promised that the College Council would grant a sum equal to what might be subscribed by the under-graduates. An appropriate place has been set apart in the Society Building, and it now rests with the students themselves, whether the project is to be carried out or not. The object is highly commendable; so let everyone subscribe as liberally as his means will permit, and let the COLLEGE have one at least, of the many athletic institutions so common and matter-of-course, among English and American Universities. The names of the Committee ap-



pointed to canvass the various years are:—Fourth Year, Messrs. RUTTAN and LAIDLAW; Third Year, Messrs. WRIGHT and CAMPBELL; Second Year, Messrs. MCKAY and GEORGE; Freshman Year, Messrs. PRATT and AIKENHEAD.

—The University College Association Football Club, which, it is said, will be stronger this year than last, purposes entering again for the cup, and hopes to give a good account of itself; but Knox College, though they will have a club, will not, for some reason, enter the competition. The two Medical Schools have amalgamated their clubs under the name of the Medical Club, but lack a practice ground. We are glad to note the deservedly growing appreciation of this sport, but, without organized effort on the part of the various clubs, and an increased endeavour to bring out the scientific qualities of the game, it will never become so popular as to attract a sufficient number of spectators to pay the expenses of the visiting team—a matter so necessary where many places have to be called at.

—As our College terms encroach so little on the summer months, the organization of a cricket club in the University, has, up to this time, been an impossibility. Since, however, we can now number among our fast increasing undergraduates eleven cricketers resident in Toronto, this objection has been in the main removed. In May last the University defeated Upper Canada College in the first match played since its foundation. The Torontos scored our first defeat. Against our sister University, Trinity College, we were twice successful, in the second match defeating their eleven by six wickets. The failure of the Toronto club to fulfil their part of an agreement, made in April last, caused so much inconvenience to the team as to compel them to suspend practice during the latter part of the season. It is to be hoped that this breach of contract will prevent the recurrence of so unequal a barter, as the use of our excellent crease for the small handful of cricketing plant the Toronto club was generous enough to bestow upon us. Such victories, under prevailing circumstances are encouraging, and are evidence of the fact, that, in coming years, ours shall hold a prominent place among the cricket clubs of Ontario.

—Following the example of their confreres, the Rugby teams of Ontario, Montreal and Ottawa, have formed an Association with the view of promoting the game, and bringing about contests between far separated clubs. No cup or trophy is to be contended for, which will have the effect of preventing the jealousies and disputes so common where there is a prize to be won. By the end of the present month it is expected that matches will be played under the jurisdiction of this association. As none of last season's Fifteen were of the graduating year, few alterations will have to be made this fall, and a good record is to be looked for. It was simply the condition of the men that won the Lacrosse championship for Toronto at Montreal last Saturday, and if Harvard is to be encountered,—and I believe, and it is to be hoped it is,—our players cannot be too well trained. A knowledge of the difference between the American and Canadian game,—the open formation instead of the scrimmage,—should be cultivated, and if weekly practices have been arranged with Upper Canada College, why not, on every alternate practice day play the open formation? A well advertised match with some American University, on the Toronto cricket ground, would be productive of sufficient money to pay a large percentage of the visiting team's expenses. A game with Harvard would carry the celebrity of the UNIVERSITY abroad, and if fortune should lay success at our door, how pleasant the memory of our neighbors' visit would be.

THE growing importance of foot-ball as a Canadian College game has been recognized on all hands. Its importance is due to several reasons, the principal of which is perhaps its suitability for the season of the year during which students can indulge in athletic sports.

Although attempts have been made at different times to introduce other modes of exercise, foot-ball alone has been found to satisfy the requirements of the students of University College. As most of our readers are aware University College boasts of two foot-ball clubs, and judging from the interest manifested in, and success attained by, both the Rugby Union and the Association clubs last season, there can be no doubt but that the students are quite competent to bring both to a high degree of efficiency, without either interfering with the other. Without entering into a discussion of the relative merits of the two games, a history of the College Association may not prove uninteresting.

Until the beginning of the season of 1876, the foot-ball played by the students was under a system of rules now generally referred to as the "old University game." The most striking features of this game were charging from behind, hacking and tripping; and although players were not allowed to carry the ball, they could bounce it along the ground with their hands. The game was, without doubt, interesting

to spectators, if not positively amusing, but scientific play was out of the question. Matches could not be arranged, as no other clubs played the game, and the students soon became dissatisfied with it. In 1875 an attempt was made by a convention of delegates from several Canadian clubs to settle on some definite rules; the project, however, failed. In the following year another attempt was made, the College sending Messrs. HARSTONE and AIKINS as delegates to a representative meeting of a number of clubs; after considerable discussion the Scottish association rules were adopted, without any amendments. A Dominion association was formed, and a silver cup offered for competition among the various clubs composing the association. The College Club consented to the change and commenced practising under the new rules with some vigor. Want of proper organization, however, rendered proficiency in the new game impossible, and dissatisfaction again set in. The advocates of the Rugby Union game strenuously endeavored to effect a change to their rules, but during that year were unable to influence the majority of players. Early in the following season, the Rugby Union supporters called a meeting of the undergraduates, at which their rules were adopted, and the newly formed club was called 'University College Football Club.' This was all done so early in term that many players were absent, and had no opportunity of expressing their views on this important question. Those who were averse to the Rugby game held a meeting shortly afterwards, and the University College Football Association was formed, and Mr. DOBBS, the Captain for the previous year, was elected president. Considerable ill-feeling at first existed between the two clubs, but when it was found each had a sufficient number of members to support it, all jealousy passed away. Last season nine matches were played by the College Association, with the following result:—Won 4; drawn 3; lost 2. Three of these matches were for the Dominion Association Cup; one being won, another drawn, and the last lost. The prospects for the future success of the Association Game in the College are all that could be desired. Clubs are being formed in many High Schools of the Province, and it is expected that many of the students, coming from these schools, will be proficient in the game; and with assiduous practice and systematic organization, there is no reason why University College should not produce a team which could take the foremost position amongst the Football Associations of the Province.

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