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DANTE'S DIVINA COMMEDIA.*

I SHALL not apologise if what I say to-day is already known to many of you. I have been asked to speak a little about Dante and especially about his greatest work, and it is necessary to touch upon many matters and many events to obtain at all a connected view of his writings. For, since the *Divina Commedia* may be said to have its origin in one special influence which shaped the poet's whole life we must glance rapidly over his history before turning to the poem itself. It is impossible in the short space of time at my disposal to do more than touch on the events of his career, and indeed the records left are so meagre, the narratives handed down to us so frequently disputed, that we cannot depend on much but the merest outline as trustworthy.

Our most picturesque account of Dante's early life comes to us from Boccaccio, who was born in 1313, eight years before the death of Dante, and whose biography should be reliable since he was so nearly a contemporary of the great poet. But a great part of his *Life of Dante*, which was written in 1351 has been rejected by competent authorities as untrustworthy, and we must therefore accept his statements with caution. The few facts of his life which I am now giving are at any rate considered reliable.

Dante, or more properly Durante Alighieri, was born in May 1265, of an honorable, perhaps noble, family of Florence, at that time one of the most flourishing cities of Europe, though disturbed like most other Italian cities with turbulent party factions. Dante was but nine years old when he first met Beatrice, the Beatrice of the *Vita Nuova*, and the *Divina Commedia*, and she was but eight. They met at the house of the little maiden's father Folco Portinari, whither Dante's father had conducted him to a May-day feast. There he beheld the little maiden, "more fit to be an angel," says Boccaccio, "than a girl." Her dress on that day, Dante tells us, "was of a most noble colour, a subdued and goodly crimson, girdled and adorned in such sort as best suited her very tender age. At that moment, I say most truly, that the spirit of life which hath its dwelling in the secretest chamber of the heart began to tremble so violently that the least pulses of my body shook therewith, and in trembling it said these words: 'Lo, a god that is stronger than I, who coming in shall rule over me.' These were the first signs of the over-powering passion which, chastened and spiritualised by her early death, followed him to the end of his life, and inspired his most noble work. We know but very

*An address given to the Levana Society by Miss L. Saunders.

little of Beatrice, or Bice, as Boccaccio calls her, giving her the still common abbreviation of her name in Italian. We know that she was lovely, sweet, and noble, that she lived through the early years of Dante's life, was married, and died soon after. Dante only records one other meeting, when he was privileged to speak to the lady of his affections. She was walking in a public place with her two companions, this time dressed "in most spotless white," and exchanged with Dante a few words of courteous greeting. Dante's heart was again stirred, and he wrote soon after the first of the sonnets still left to us. The *Vita Nuova*, or *New Life*, was the earliest result of this love, giving the story of their brief interviews and occasional meetings, and some other details, far too few, of her short life and early death. The narrative is interspersed with the lovely poems and sonnets she inspired. We do not know if they ever came closer together than in that one "gracious salutation," but we know that his love for her, and her unfading memory were the greatest influences of his life. In the last division of the *Vita Nuova*, he, evidently feeling that the story just closing was insufficient to express his love for her, and his sense of her sweetness and purity, expresses his intention of writing of her "what ne'er was writ of woman." The thought of the *Divina Commedia* was even then in his mind, and in this poem the intention was nobly fulfilled. This passion then, we may consider as one of the two great motive powers of his life. The other we shall find later came from his political views. Soon after Beatrice's death Dante was married to Gemma

Donati, by some identified with "the gentle damsel" who he tells us in the *Vita Nuova*, sought to comfort him after the death of Beatrice. I may remind you that this chivalrous love for some idealized woman, who perhaps never came into any closer relationship with her lover than in the present case, was quite a feature of the Middle Ages, and did not interfere with marriage, or a happy domestic life. It was, I think, one of the results of the exaltation of Woman which had grown up in Christendom, and which found its expression, sometimes even to the point of absurdity, among the Minnesingers.

Of Gemma we have scarcely any notice, except that she and Dante lived together until his banishment and had several children. As long as Beatrice lived all Dante's thoughts centered round her, and she was a Divine message to him of God's presence on earth, and of His love for His creatures. After she was taken, he seemed for a time to have lost his hold on heavenly things, and to be as it were, wandering without a guide away from the light. He had now reached the age of thirty-five years, "the midway of the path of Life," as he calls it, and appears to have drifted hopelessly into the tangle of political disorder in which the country was then enveloped. But his was not a nature to give way to despair, or indolence. Through strife and trouble of soul he fought his way back to a consciousness of his place in his country, and to freedom of spirit, and it was then, when his studies in philosophy were taking definite shape, that he again found in the idealized and glorified image of Beatrice, the inspiration he needed.

He awoke to a sense of his country's needs and the year 1300 found him in his place among the rulers of Florence.

The Italy of Dante's day was a disjointed one. To Dante, as to other patriots from age to age, the unity of Italy was a glorious ideal. But it is only within the last forty or fifty years that this ideal has become a reality. From the time of the Lombard invasion, and the subsequent conquest of many parts of Italy there had been no central point of government, but separate and independent kingdoms had existed within her bounds, and each state and city had a separate and independent interest. Thus Dante was born into a land of strife and disorder, and Florence in particular was torn by the two great opposing factions of the Guelphs and the Ghibellines.

Roughly speaking we may say that the Ghibellines were a party who stood for an aristocratic principle of order, who looked to the German Empire as the heir of the Empire of Rome, and espoused the Emperor's cause against the Pope—their danger was a tendency to oppression. The Guelphs represented a democratic principle of progress and supported the Pope in his struggles with the German Emperor, their tendency being towards chaos and license. Dante, who was by birth and tradition a Guelph, had at first fought on that side, but as in later years he pondered the state of his country, he gradually embraced the conception of the Holy Roman Empire, as the expression of perfect government, and thought he saw in the Ghibelline cause an escape from the woes which had be-

fallen his country. Those who are interested in this point will find a very clear account of it in Bryce's *Holy Roman Empire*. It is sufficient here to say that Dante, impressed by the grandeur and glory of the Empire of Rome, believed that God had committed to her the dominion of the world. To the Roman empire, the temporal power, now vested in the German emperor, was given, to the Church, through the Pope, the spiritual dominion; and the two forces working side by side, each in its own sphere, formed a perfect government, and a type on earth of the Divine rule. Dante considers rebellion against either as of equal sinfulness, and I have mentioned this point here because those wishing to read the *Divina Commedia* intelligently, will find in the recognition of this thought in Dante's mind running continuously through the poem, a clue which will make many points clear, that seem obscure. Take the final scene in the *Inferno*, Lucifer champing in his jaws his three victims, Judas, Cassius, and Brutus, the two latter, the traitors and rebels against Caesar, the head and representative of God's temporal power on earth, the former the traitor against his Divine master, the supreme Head of the spiritual power.

We have no time to follow his efforts, as Prior of Florence, to hold the helm, to put down factions, to serve his country to the best of his power. It was while he was absent at Rome on a painful and fruitless errand to the Pope, that the cruel sentence of banishment was pronounced upon him in 1302. For nineteen years he was banished from his

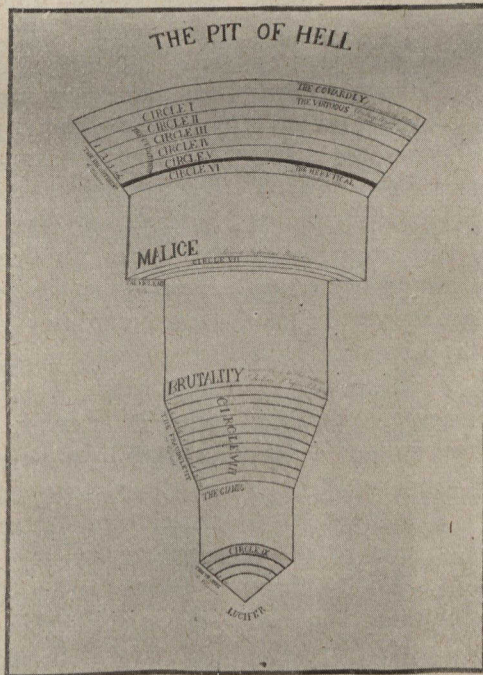
dearly loved Florence, nineteen years which saw one hope after another of salvation for his country dashed to the ground, as he thought he recognized in some famous warrior or sovereign, the expected deliverer of Italy and time after time found his expectations vain. He has told us how bitter those years were, "exul immeritus," an exile without cause, he pathetically calls himself, and his exile ended only with his death in 1321. He never saw Florence again. Bitter years which tried his brave heart to the uttermost, but to those years we owe the *Divina Commedia*, the noblest work ever written, a work which today is as vivid and real, as full of grandeur and truth, as full of beauty and pathos as it was six hundred years ago. I hardly know where to begin in speaking of it. Into it Dante put his very soul. The dreadful scenes were true and living to him, they had left their trace on his worn and melancholy face—"Eccovi l'uomo che é stato nell'inferno," said the people as they looked at him. This is the man who has been in Hell." How strong must have been his faith who could believe through all in the love of God, could believe that Love had formed even the place of punishment and despair.

Dante himself tells us about the plan of the *Divina Commedia* in a letter to Can Grande, by most authorities considered authentic. "Let us consider," he says, "the subject of this work according to the letter first, and then according to the allegorical meaning. The subject of the whole work then, taken literally, is the state of souls after death, as a matter of fact, for the action of the whole work is about

this. But if the work be taken allegorically its subject is Man, in so far as by merit or demerit in the exercise of free will he is exposed to the rewards or punishment of justice." For lack of space I must pass very briefly over the subject-matter of the poem, and proceed to give some explanation of Dante's conception of the universe, which I perhaps can do with the help of the accompanying charts. In Dante's day the Pythagorean system of astronomy was still universally received, which makes the earth the centre of the universe, round which the sun revolved, and this accounted for the apparent movement of the celestial bodies. The lower hemisphere, Dante supposed, according to the common belief of his day, was uninhabitable, and save for the Mount of Purgatory, nothing but a wild waste of waters, and he makes Ulysses lose his life in his bold attempt to venture upon its depths. In the centre of the habitable earth, that is the upper hemisphere, Jerusalem was placed, according to the Scripture, "I have placed thee in the midst of the earth." Here fell Lucifer for his pride, and displaced huge masses of earth as he fell, which, forced before him, rose up on the other side of the earth, as the Mount of Purgatory, Lucifer himself being fixed by the laws of gravity, in the central point of the earth. The vast chasm left behind him became the Pit of Hell. Here the impenitent wicked are punished by suffering suited to their crimes, while in the Mount of Purgatory those sinners who died repentant suffer the purifying punishment which prepares them for their entrance to the Earthly Paradise, at the top of the Mount, which

forms the antichamber of Paradise. Through these realms Dante was permitted to wander. Let us rapidly follow the course he took. In the mid-way of life, as he tells us, he found himself in a dark wood, representing perhaps, moral as well as political confusion, more especially of Italy. He sees a sunlit mountain before him, probably moral and political order.

and so on. Here Dante is met by Virgil (Human Science) who declares himself to be sent through the intervention of Beatrice (Theological Science) by the mouth of Lucia, (Enlightening Grace) to bring him back to the light and virtue from which he has wandered. Together they enter the antichamber of Hell, over whose portal are inscribed the words:



Seeking to gain the summit, he finds himself opposed by three wild beasts, the panther of Florence, the lion of France, and the wolf of Rome. This is perhaps the most generally received interpretation of the allegory in the political sense, but I must warn you that there are many views, and if you choose to regard the allegory in a religious sense, the wild beasts may stand for envy, pride and avarice, the dark wood for the soul sunk in vice,

“Through me you pass into the city
of woe,
Through me you pass into eternal
pain,
Through me among the people lost
for aye
Justice the founder of my fabric
moved.
To rear me was the task of power
divine,
Supremest wisdom and eternal
love,

Before me things create were none,
 save things
 Eternal, and eternal I endure
 All hope abandon ye who enter
 here.

Entering the dark abode of wretchedness, they found themselves among the cowardly or pusillanimous, the shameful ones too low for either good or evil, cast out from Heaven and Hell, the scorn of all, who had no energy even to commit sin. "Speak not of them," says Virgil, "but look and pass them by," and they pass on through the host of shadows forever following a whirling banner in endless pursuit. They cross the River Styx, where Charon, the infernal ferry-man, carries over the myriad of unhappy souls to the presence of Minos, who, in the second circle, appoints them their place among the lost.

The first circle, the Limbo of Hell, holds all the souls of unbaptised infants and of the virtuous heathen. Here is no suffering, no sorrow except the absence of God, while on a green plain, watered by a clear river, rises a noble castle, where dwell all the great and noble of antiquity, those who from no fault of theirs, did not worship the true God. Here are Homer, Horace, Lucan, Electra, Antigone, Marzia, Aristotle, and many others, who give Dante kindly greeting. Here he is hailed as a brother among the great poets, a goodly company, one feels that one's lot might be worse cast than in this dim abode of noble spirits. Life could hardly fail to be interesting in such company.

In the next three circles are those punished for the abuse of natural passions and desires. In the second circle the incontinent in love are forever

carried round in a furious whirlwind. Among them are the famous lovers Paolo and Francesca. In the third circle are the intemperate in food and drink, punished with hailstorms and freezing cold. In the fourth circle are the spendthrifts and the avaricious who are rolling great weights. In the fifth circle the passionate are choked beneath foul waters. Then follows the descent to the City of Dis, which is seen from afar, burning with lurid glow; here Dante and Virgil have difficulty in entering, for demons and furies oppose their entrance. A rushing sound is heard and across the foul waters appears an angelic being whose feet scarcely touch the surface. At the touch of his wand the gates fly open; he rebukes the cowering spirits and demons, who retreat before him, and the pilgrims enter unhurt, and come to where in the sixth circle, the heretics are imprisoned in burning tombs. They then descend by a steep rock to the abode of the violent, who are punished in three successive rounds of the seventh circle.

Dante distinguishes between the sins arising from the nature of Man (Natural Passion, Intemperance, Lust, etc.,) and those which do violence to his nature (Fraud, Treachery, etc.,) and punishes the latter with far greater severity. From the last place they descend a chasm on the back of a monster, with the face of a beautiful human being, the image of Fraud, to Malebolge where in ten lessening rounds, the fraudulent ones are punished in the eighth circle. Here are the seducers, flatterers, soothsayers, thieves and many others. They are punished by scourg-

ing, by fire, by horrible transformations, and other torments, in many cases strangely appropriate to the crime, as when the schismatics and sowers of discord are cleft in twain, and the hypocrites are dressed as monks with gilded cowls of lead of overwhelming weight.

We next come to the chasm where dwell all the giants of antiquity, their feet resting on the ice where are fixed the traitors. The circle of the traitors is subdivided into three rounds, thus:

- 1st. Traitors to their kindred.
- 2nd. Traitors to their country.
- 3rd. Traitors to their benefactors.

These are embedded in ice, in positions more or less cruel according to the measure of their crime, Dante esteeming the first form of treachery the lightest, and the last the worst. Here Lucifer is fixed exactly in the centre of the earth, a monstrous three-headed figure, forever championing the three arch traitors, Judas having the greatest torture.

Now, with infinite labour, Dante and his companion climb down, clinging to the monster, turning as they pass the centre of the earth, and shortly after emerge, black with smoke, and pale with agony of mind to behold once more the stars and to breathe again the pure air. They find themselves at the base of the Mount of Purgatory. Here all is calm and peaceful, once more they see the star of hope. Purgatory, though a place of suffering, is not a place of unhappiness, for all know that their pains are purifying. As in Hell, there is an antichamber, where those who have deferred repentance in this life are condemned to linger a given time before beginning their purification.

Cato, the keeper of Purgatory, meets them on the threshold and bids Dante bathe his face in the dew to remove the grime of Hell, and gird himself with a reed as a sign of humility. They mount through waiting souls, guarded at night by angels from attacking serpents, to the portal of Purgatory. Here an angel with a sword meets them, who graves seven P's on the brow of Dante. There are seven circles, representing the seven deadly sins (see chart), and as Dante passes through each one a P is effaced from his brow.

The entrance to Purgatory is gained by three steps, the first of white marble, representing sincerity of conscience; the second black stone, contrition; the third flaming porphyry, redemption by the atonement.

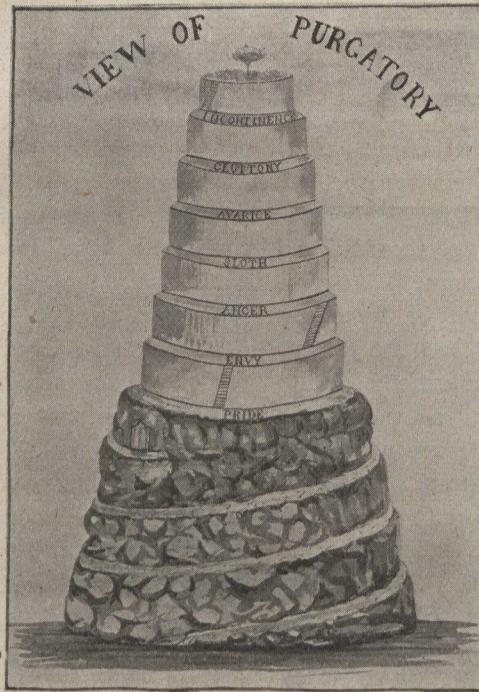
In the first circle the spirits are purified from Pride, being bowed down by great weights, as they take their painful way. In the second circle the sin of Envy is purified: here the eyes of the penitents are sewn together with iron threads. In the third circle the sin of Anger is punished by thick smoke. In the fourth the Slothful ones heal their sluggish souls by violent running. In the fifth circle we find those guilty of Avarice cleaving to the pavement, unable to lift their eyes to higher things. In the sixth circle those who had given way to Intemperance wander under trees of living fruit, while suffering from hunger and thirst. And in the last circle the sin of Incontinence is purged by purifying fire.

In Hell only the guilty act is punished, in Purgatory the evil disposition of mind is eradicated.

Do not too hastily form an opinion of Dante from the descriptions of ter-

rible punishments which his Vision affords. You must remember that the age in which he lived abounded in such things; the penal codes were barbarous, and human life and suffering lightly thought of. The common view of Purgatory and Hell was far more gross and horrible than that of Dante, where it is simply terrible. You have only to read some of the

ter the Earthly Paradise and the antichamber of Heaven. Here Dante sees a procession of Apocalyptic splendour, saints, fathers, martyrs, and symbolic figures. Here Virgil leaves him, and Beatrice arrives in a car of splendid glory. She descends, and approaching Dante veiled she reproaches him bitterly for having wandered from the right way, and after deep



other visious recorded of the future life to be convinced of the fact. Nor can Dante be justly accused of carrying personal enmities into his descriptions of the penalties described. This has been done, but I am sure only by those who have given a very superficial study to this great work. Dante was governed by a most rigid and un-deviating justice, though he often lets us perceive the tenderness of his own nature.

At the summit of Purgatory they en-

contrition on his part he is forgiven, and plunged first into the river of Lethe, or forgetfulness, and then into the river of Eunoe, or happy memory. The meaning of this is obvious. Beatrice now consents to unveil herself and to smile on her follower. From the Earthly Paradise they ascend to Paradise proper, first to the Heaven of the Moon, where are those who have broken their vows of virginity, and have not attained to a higher sphere.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY.

SO many articles have been written since the arrival of the Rhodes scholar, discussing and criticizing everything from the influence of the university on national life to the amount charged for salt and pepper in bottles, that it is rather hard to know what to talk about. Criticism, at least, is out of the question. It requires time to get to know any place and Oxford reserve is proverbial. However, it may be interesting to notice a few of the differences between university life on different sides of the Atlantic.

The first thing that strikes one is that there seems to be no university, but a lot of colleges. To the tourist's question, "Where is the university?" the Oxonian can only give a look of blank astonishment or perhaps try to satisfy the enquirer by pointing out the Ashmolean Museum or the Examination Schools. The truth is that the term university as applied to Oxford has its old sense for an assemblage of colleges at a seat of learning. At Queen's, though there are the faculty "scraps" to lighten existence, every man feels first of all that he is a Queen's man and the loyalty is to the university. There a man belongs, first of all to his college. He is "up at" Balliol or Magdalen or New. If he speaks of being "up at" Oxford he is thinking of the city rather than the university. Indeed, the connecting links between him and the university are not the pleasantest features of his stay at Oxford. The chief of these are the ceremony of matriculation with its accompanying fee which jumps up every year or two, the "schools" (exams.) which he must

take from time to time, the proctors who dog his steps after dark, and the final payment of heavy dues for a degree if he is lucky enough to get one. To a great extent this is what the university means to him. Of course, when there is a contest with Cambridge or some other outside club, he is an Oxford man, but this loyalty is not so real as that to the college.

Indeed, that is quite natural. The college has a reality to him that the larger and more indefinite institution can never have. It is probably the college where his father and grandfather have been before him and they can instruct him in all college lore down to the entrances that he may get in by after midnight when the college is closed. In it he lives for six months of the year, during his undergrad. days, and there he will often return for short visits after he "goes down."

There are twenty-three colleges in all and the rivalry among them is very keen both in athletics and academical lines. Different colleges excel in different things, and generally keep up the tradition that has been handed down. Thus, Balliol is pre-eminently the scholars' and students' college, securing four or five times its share of university honors in that line. Trinity excels in "rigger" (rugby football) and generally has five or six blues on the 'Varsity team. This competition is also very noticeable in the rivalry for places in the different university organizations, such as the Union and the different athletic organizations. So far is this carried that the individual is rather merged in the college, *e.g.*, if Gladstone of New gets his rowing blue, no doubt

he and his friends think it is a very good thing for him, but the great majority of people think only that it is a good thing for New. When Rose wins the Ireland scholarship, he and his friends may meet and rejoice together; Rhodes scholars in general may feel that he is helping to justify their existence, but the ordinary man simply regards it as a further addition to Balliol's long list of successes.

To one "fresh" from the free untrammelled West an ordinary Oxford College looks suspiciously like a prison, except that the architecture is too fine. Only one door, and that with a porter always on duty, and all the windows on the ground floor strongly barred, the wall wherever there is the slightest possibility of scaling it lined on top with spikes or pieces of broken glass, all this makes it very formidable and he will soon find that the days of complete freedom are over. He is under the control of the authorities and must conform to the rules of the college: these will not allow him out after 9 p.m., while for coming in after 9 there are fines varying from a penny between nine and ten to sixpence from ten to twelve. Coming in after twelve is a serious offence, punished with a heavy fine at least, and if repeated without good excuse, by being "sent down." He has also another master in the shape of the university, which orders him to wear cap and gown in the streets after 9 p.m., and imposes many other restrictions on his actions. The university proctors prowl about the streets all evening and have an unerring sense for the undergraduate, being able to distinguish him from the townie with the greatest ease. They are attended by men called

"bullers," who are chosen for their fleetness of foot, and woe to the unlucky man who tries to find safety in flight. Unless he is a good 100-yards man the latter end of that man will be worse than the first, because running away makes the fine much larger. The rules which are supposed to govern the undergrad. life are found in "the Statuta et Secreta Universitatis Oxonensis" and are about as long as the moral law. If one reads them judiciously, however, he can find some interesting things. It is there stated that no undergrad. shall carry any offensive or defensive weapons except bows and arrows and these only for the purpose of lawful amusement. Another rule which a short time ago was solemnly repealed, forbids undergrads. to play marbles on the steps of the Bodleian library.

The day's programme at Oxford during term is quite different from ours and it might be interesting to give some sort of sketch of a typical day. You are awakened by the sound of many waters as the scout fills your bath-tub and goes out with a "'alf-past seven, please, sir," or (as scouts are wise in their generation), he will often make it "five and twenty to eight," so as to spur you up a little. The first thing you do is begin to calculate how your "chapels" stand and whether you can afford to be in bed. In Balliol each man has to do six "chapels" or "rollers" a week. Chapel begins at 8.05 and lasts for fifteen minutes. Doing a chapel means getting to the chapel dressed and in academic costume before 8.05. The amount of dressing that has to be done is not exactly stated, but a collar and tie at least are necessary, as I found one morning when I was hur-

ried. "Rollers," *i.e.*, roll calls, which were introduced when men who were not members of the Church of England were admitted to Oxford, simply means getting to the porter's lodge in the garb above mentioned by 8.00 o'clock, and having your name checked off. Of course everyone is nominally supposed to go to chapel unless he has conscientious scruples, but it is wonderful how many have. There is a special kind of roller known as a "dirty roller." This means simply doing the dressing prescribed by law, making a "roller" and then going back to bed for a few hours more. To return from this digression. If you come to the conclusion that in order to make six by the end of the week you must get up, you probably wait till about 7.50 and then make a wild rush for your bath and into your clothes, and about 7.59 you are doing a sprint up the grade trying at the same moment to get into your gown. You may arrive only in time to see the porter going from the lodge to the chapel with his recording slate, and then you have the choice of going to chapel or risking having to meet the Dean at the end of the week. Generally, I fear you take the latter alternative, as chapel is chilly and your apparel perhaps not of the most elaborate nature. Unless you happen to be doing chapels you have then half an hour, from 8.00 till 8.30 to lounge about or read the papers. At 8.30 comes breakfast either in your own rooms or with some friends, for breakfast is quite a social meal at Oxford. On Sunday, however, there is no breakfast except in hall and you have to be there by 9.15 or the door is shut against you. If you are having men in to breakfast, the scout will for-

age round among the men on the stair and rout you out quite an imposing array of cutlery, etc., in case your own supply is insufficient. The breakfast is, of course, cooked in the college kitchen and brought in by the scout, who places it before the grate fire on the poker, tongs and trivet for warmth. Breakfast is a fairly solid meal, consisting generally of fish, eggs, or meat and toast and rolls, with the inevitable jam or marmalade. It is nearly ten o'clock before breakfast is over, and then of course everyone has to smoke. Someone may excuse himself on account of a ten o'clock lecture, but he does so in a half-apologetic way, as if it were not really a valid reason. Going to see one's tutor is a better excuse, but even that is rather frowned down. Sometime after ten the group will disperse to lectures or to read till lunch time or to go to the Junior Common Room to read the morning papers. Lectures are nearly all in the morning between nine and one, and do not form nearly such a large part of college life as they do at home. The lecture rooms themselves are small and insignificant and seem to be rather apologizing for their existence. Two lectures a day is considered a good deal and a great many men have only four or five a week.

Lunch comes at one o'clock. It is rather a light meal as it is usually followed by exercise. In the majority of cases it consists merely of bread and jam, with or without cold meat. Luncheon parties are often held out. On the whole, lunch is the least sociable meal of the day. Immediately after lunch the college is deserted for field and river. Rowing, paddling, sculling, football—"rugger," and "soccer," hockey so-called, golf, tennis,

beagling, cycling, walking, all claim their devotees and nearly every man does something. Indeed, the Oxford air and the English temperament both demand it. Soon after four they begin to return and after 4.30 nearly every one is back and ready for "tea." I can hear you all laugh, so did I, but I have come to enjoy it very much, and really when lunch is so light and dinner so late it is a real necessity. Tea is pre-eminently the social meal of the day. You scarcely ever take it alone but generally with four or five of your friends. At 5.30 you are supposed to go and thus get in one and a half hours' reading before hall, but generally the conversation has just begun to get interesting and you may stay on until it is almost time to go in to hall. Athletics and politics are the great subjects, because the Oxford man has an excessive fear of talking shop. "Hall" is rather a disappointment to the average "fresher" his first couple of terms. Before he goes up he thinks of it as rather a jolly social time when the whole college is gathered together. He finds it at first, however, as an Engländer described it to me, a "mournful function," when each one races the man next and gets through four courses in from twelve to twenty minutes. However, as he gets over his first stiffness things begin to brighten up and he begins to enjoy things more. The most interesting thing, I think, about dinner is the practice of "scoucing." If you quote or talk shop or use strong language, anyone who hears may write it down and send it to the senior scholar at the table, who allows it or disallows it as he pleases. If it is allowed then you have to stand the table a quart mug of ale or lemonade. You have first drink yourself and

are allowed as much as you can take in a single draught. Any man who floors the scouce, *i.e.*, drinks it all, is naturally considered to have done himself great honor. After dinner you may read if you wish, but quite likely there is some college debating society or the Union to go to and after that coffee with someone, and so the day is over, and from the point of view of the Canadian student practically wasted. I shall try and say later on why I think that this is not the case.

As I have said before, athletics occupy a much larger place in the undergraduate's day than with us at home. Almost every man goes in for athletics of some kind. Rowing is, of course, the most typical thing at Oxford. As soon as the Michaelmas or autumn term begins the officers of the boat club in each college rout out such of the freshers as look likely and are willing to become slaves of the oar. Down they are marched to the college barge and "tubbing" begins. This means being taken out by twos in small boats called tubs and instructed in the noble art by those who have rowed in the college eight. The instruction that one gets on the river is on a far different level from that imparted in the lecture room. There you may listen or not as you please. On the river, however, if your attention flags half a minute you are severely reprimanded, and if the offence is repeated you are abused in unmeasured terms. I heard one of the dons say that he would gladly believe that the instruction he had to give was regarded as half so important or half so earnestly listened to as that on the water path. There are supposed to be seventy odd faults and they seem to come in cycles. When you have, as you think, mastered one thing and gone

on to something else, you are horrified a day or two after when the coach finds fault with you for the same old thing. It is an unheard-of thing to answer a coach and that gives his words even more weight.

There are races going on in all three terms. In the Michaelmas term, each college has its freshmen races to bring on their new material. After these are over the best of the men are picked out and begin to get ready for the "Torpedes"—a very suggestive name—which come in the winter or Hilary term. There are boats from every college entered and as some of the large colleges enter two there are thirty boats in all. All undergraduates who have not been "up" for races can row, with the exception of those who have served in the eights (the summer races) the preceding year. In the summer term come the eights which are the great event of the year in Oxford. The rivalry is very keen and training is quite a serious business. The day's programme during training is: up at 7.30; a walk of a mile, with a short run in the middle of it. Breakfast together at 8.30 at the expense of men in the college who are not rowing and who are expected to entertain the "togger" (the slang name). Lunch you have by yourself, but it is supposed to be very light. Then in the afternoon you are out for two "journeys," paddling about five miles with short bits of "rowing" in the middle. The course is one and a quarter miles, and two or three times before the race you "row" over the whole course. I might explain that "paddling" means rowing fairly easy, while "rowing" is absolutely putting every ounce you have into each stroke. Tea is supposed to be very light and dinner is

served at a special table in hall with a special bill of fare and a special price. Training begins two weeks before the races and as they last a week you are in for three weeks altogether.

The races themselves are rather good sport. As there are so many boats the race is run in three divisions, the top boat of the second and third divisions also rowing as the bottom boat of the one above so as to give it a chance to go up. Each boat has a lead of about 90 feet on the one in front and the races of course are bumping races, *i.e.*, you have to make up the whole distance and touch the boat in front or else you start just the same distance behind the next day. When a bump is made the two boats pull to the side of the river and allow the boats behind to pass, and then paddle gently up to their barges.

The start is rather exciting. There is a 5-minute gun, then a dreary wait of four minutes for the main gun. Then the order "strip" is given, which means taking off your sweater and leaving only rowing zephyr and shorts, the boat is shoved out, the cox. holding on by a rope fastened to the bank. The coach keeps telling off the time and at ten seconds begins to count ten, nine, eight, etc. You sit with your eye on stroke's blade waiting to hear the gun. Then it goes and you are off, amid a yell from the crowd of runners on the beach, the tooting of horns, the cracking of pistols, and other fiendish noises. The roar is continuous: "Well rowed, Balliol, well rowed indeed," (they sadly need some good slogans here). "You're going up, you're going up," whether you really are or not. Then if you do really begin to gain the roar is redoubled: "Three-quarters of a length, half a

length, you're gaining. Oh, well rowed indeed," until you are nearly deafened. In the boat itself things are different. You start off at the rate of 40-45 strokes a minute just as hard as you can go. There is no waiting and saving yourself. Each boat is trying to take the one in front before it is 'taken' by the one behind. After about a minute and a half you are absolutely cooked and wonder if you will ever reach the end alive. The only thing that keeps you from 'quitting' is shame and there is a story of a German last year who threw down his oar with the expressive words "Ach, I can no more!" However, if you really do work yourself out at first you feel much more comfortable the rest of the way up. The cox keeps shouting all the way up and indeed it is about as hard on his wind as on every one else's. Making a bump is quite a nice sensation. You not only save yourself from rowing hard over the whole course but you have the pleasure of paddling up to the barge amid the applause of all the spectators, which of course is very gratifying though one always wishes that they could do something more than shout, "Well rowed, Balliol," and clap their hands. The bump supper which is held when a college makes four bumps is a great occasion accompanied by much joy and gladness.

The sport that ranks next to rowing is rugby football or "rugger". The game that is played here is of course what we call English rugby and has certainly many good points about it. It is very open and the running and passing are very fine; the kicking I do not think is as good as in our own game. Each college has a team and there are innumerable matches, though

as organized league, Association football or 'soccer' is also played a good deal. Next comes 'hockey'. It looks very tame after our game but I have played it just rough enough to know that like every other game it requires experience and practice to appreciate it. The off-side rule is like that of association football and there are eleven men in a team. A goal, two backs, three half-backs and five forwards. They use a ball a good deal like a cricket ball, and the sticks are smaller and thicker than ours because, of course they have to use them much more like bats. They are flat on one side only and you are not allowed to use the other side of the stick or to come in on a man from the left or to body-check because all these add to the danger of the game. Of course when you are not on skates you have to be more careful, but it strikes one at first that they are rather careful of themselves. Using only one side of the stick is awkward until you get used to turning it round and batting the ball with the point.

The highest Oxford athletic distinction is the blue and it is very eagerly sought after. A full blue is given to the men in the eight, to the "rugger," "soccer," and cricket teams and to the first string of track men. The men on the hockey, golf and tennis teams, and the second string of track men get a half-blue. Only those, however, who compete against Cambridge get it. A man may play in a dozen matches but if he is not chosen against Cambridge he does not get the blue.

There is one thing about English athletics that one cannot help admiring and remarking on. They really do play the game for the game's

sake and there is no desire to outwit the referee or to win unfairly. It is quite an ordinary thing to see a man call a foul on himself if the referee does not see it.

College societies too, are quite different from what we have at home. The Union is the Society par excellence. It does not include all the undergrads like our Alma Mater, nor is its purpose the same. It is practically just a university club with a membership open to any undergrad for payment of the membership fee, which comes to about \$18 a year. There are reading, writing, smoking and coffee rooms, a good library and a debating hall. Once a week during term there are debates and always on the burning political questions of the day. The Oxford Union is the great training school for the British House of Commons and it is interesting to note the style of speaking that obtains. Oratory is not good form at all. The style that is aimed at is rather pointed and epigrammatic, and in many cases it is very successful. Nearly all undergrads are very keen on politics and the debates are very instructive as well as interesting. The officers in the Union are only elected for a term so that there are three elections a year. But there is no canvassing and the elections are very quiet and uninteresting. This is the one university club whose membership is open but there are several others that are sanctioned by the authorities and have a large membership. In each college, of course, there are clubs and societies of different kinds for debating and other less instructive amusements. In Balliol there are two debating societies, the Arnold and the Brackenburgh, and these are well at-

tended and have a good deal of influence in the college.

On first coming up, and even for some time after, one is apt to think that life at Oxford is very pleasant and instructive in its way but that it is rather queer to call it study, but one must remember, however, that in the great majority of cases men come up to Oxford not to get a training which will be of practical use to them in earning a living, but to get the benefit of the Oxford life and environment. When one gets to know them better, too, he finds that for all the appearance of slackness and laziness most of the men are reading five or six hours a day and, what is more important, have a knowledge and appreciation of literature, ancient and modern, art and philosophy that rather makes one feel ashamed. "Swatting" is considered rather degrading except immediately before examinations but a good deal of work is done quietly. Most important of all is the fact that the vacation which with us is usually lost, is the time for the Oxford man to do his really solid work, and the college by a system of private examinations sees that he does it. At Balliol the amount of work given for the vacation is quite surprising.

As a matter of fact, though Oxford is the home of the scholar, the aim of the place is to make men not scholars and taking all into consideration it seems justified in the end. It is the training that may be had apart from his courses, and lecture-rooms that is most valuable. One cannot help feeling that it would be a great pity to transform it into a so-called up-to-date practical institution for the turning out of highly specialized but one-sided machines.

THE MEDICAL CONVOCATION.

THE last of Queen's Medical convocations passed off quietly in Grant Hall on Thursday, April 12th. Sir Sandford Fleming, the Chancellor, presided and conferred the honorary degree of LL.D. upon Dr. C. K. Clarke, Superintendent of Toronto Asylum for the Insane, and the degree of M.D., C.M. upon the forty-seven men who graduated in medicine this spring.

In his address to the members of convocation, Sir Sandford Fleming referred to the work of the Royal Commission which has recently inquired into and reported on matters relating to Toronto University. He stated that Queen's had only the kindest feelings towards Toronto University, and rejoiced in her prosperity and in the good she had accomplished. But then, reminding those present that Toronto was not the only educational centre in Ontario, he ventured to suggest the appointment of a second royal commission to inquire into the university system of the whole province, and expressed the hope that until the fullest information by this means had been gained definite action by the Government and Legislature should be deferred.

In presenting Dr. C. K. Clarke to the Chancellor for the degree of Doctor of Laws, Prof. Shortt referred to the wide range of Dr. Clarke's interests and to the vigor and enthusiasm with which he pursued various lines of science and culture. He is a widely recognized authority on mental diseases, but he studies those not merely professionally but in the true scientific spirit and is keenly interested in their wider national and social significance. He has made several im-

portant contributions to the literature of insanity, particularly in the *Journal of Insanity*, of which he is associate editor. In conclusion, Prof. Shortt spoke of Dr. Clarke as not only a scientific specialist and scholar, but one of those men of wide and wholesome interests, who touch life at many points and who in a country such as ours are among the most potent forces which make for civilization.

In replying, Dr. Clarke referred to the good work being done by Queen's in all lines, and to the inspiration afforded by the memory of Principal Grant. The Government endowment of a biological building here would assure the future of Queen's Medical department and would improve the condition of Toronto University. The interests of higher education are identical and progress should be welcomed either in Toronto or Kingston. Broad educational policies should be above petty bickerings.

In speaking to the members of the graduating class, Dr. Clarke advised them to acquire a broader culture than that of the average Canadian physician. The lives of Howard, Workman, Osler and Reeve are ample proof that those who acquire a broad culture outside medicine itself can achieve its highest results. Broadness of culture is necessary to counteract the ultra-materialistic tendencies which the study of medicine is apt to develop. The graduates were advised to become broad minded physicians before specializing as surgeons.

Dean Connell announced that the registration in medicine this year was 223, the largest on record. He referred to the high standard of teaching in the college, to the small percentage of failures, and to the almost

entire elimination of the loafing element.

Speaking to the graduates the Dean warned them against professional jealousy, the besetting sin of the medical profession, and urged habits of association and mutual intercourse with one another. The interests of the profession are best served by cordial sympathy, harmony and good fellowship.

Principal Gordon, on being asked to speak to the graduating class, pointed the members to the life of Principal Grant, dwelling especially on his power of concentration in his work, his courage and his spirit of helpful service.

THE NEW JOURNAL STAFF.

The following are the members of the JOURNAL staff for the session 1906-1907:

Editor-in-chief—G. A. Platt.

Associate Editor—Miss M.D. Harkness.

Managing Editor—W. M. Hay.

DEPARTMENTS

Ladies—Miss I. McInnes, Miss M. Clifford.

Literary—A. H. Gibson.

Arts—R. C. Jackson.

Medicine—R. A. Scott.

Science—A. G. Fleming.

Divinity—R. M. Stevenson.

Athletics—R. Potter.

Exchanges—J. S. Huff.

Alumni—A. E. Boak.

Business Manager—H. P. May.

Assistant Business Manager—D. I. McLeod.

Business Committee—T. McGinnis, F. J. Keely, Miss E. Spotswood.

ABOUT ABBIE.

Abbie Ben Adams, may her life be spared,

Awoke one night, and felt a trifle scared:

For on her shirt-waist box, cross-legged, sate

A Vision writing on a little slate.

Exceeding nervousness made Abbie quake;

And to the Vision timidly she spake: "What writest thou?" The Vision looked appalled

At her presumption, and quite coldly drawled:

"The list of our Best People who depart

For watering places sumptuous and smart."

"And am I in it?" asked Miss Abbie. "No!"

The scornful Vision said. "You're poor, you know."

"I know," said Abbie; "I go where it's cheap.

I can't afford mountains or prices steep,

But, ere you leave, just jot this item down,

I never leave my cats to starve in town."

The Vision wrote, and vanished. Next night, late,

He came again and brought his little slate,

And showed the names of people really best,

And lo! Miss Abbie's name led all the rest.

—C. W.

Freedom's secret wilt thou know?

Counsel not with flesh or blood;

Loiter not for cloak nor food;

Right thou feelest, rush to do.

—Emerson.

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 ADOCIATE EDITOR - - - R. J. McDonald.
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Editorials.

THE GYMNASIUM

AT last Queen's is to have a gymnasium. There will be no more false alarms, no more making haste slowly—oh, so slowly! The funds have been subscribed in large part, the plans have been drawn, the site almost decided upon, and the first sod, we are told, will be turned on Convocation day. The oldest inhabitant has not seen the like before and has confessed himself duly surprised. It has been long in coming, and it is not coming now without a struggle, but no doubt for that very reason we shall appreciate it the more. Queen's good things all come slowly.

The "gym. scheme" at Queen's is an old, old project, but most of the students now in attendance became actively interested in it for the first time last winter, when the Alma Mater Society appointed a committee to inquire into the matter and report. The committee recommended the undertaking of a canvass and the erection of a building, and the report was adopted

by the society. But when the matter was referred to the University finance committee for sanction, it was quietly shelved. The undertaking was too large, and there were fears that it might interfere with the success of the Endowment campaign. The students were disappointed but they saw the force of the finance committee's argument, and accepted the inevitable. But the committee had not worked in vain. They at least succeeded in showing the students just how big an undertaking the erection of a gym. was, and when the question came up again this winter, it was more soberly and intelligently discussed than might otherwise have been the case. The scheme was fairly set forth. It was decided to make a preliminary canvass among the students before undertaking the erection of a building. If the students wanted a gym. they would say so. And they did say so, rather emphatically. The canvass met with such an enthusiastic and eager response that there was nothing left but to procure plans and proceed with the work.

Two questions remained, the question of maintenance and the question of a site. The former has already been decided. It will cost approximately \$1,000 a year to run the gym. and this sum will be raised by increasing the athletic fee from \$2 to \$3. On all hands this plan has been considered preferable to charging a gymnasium fee. Every student should patronize the college gym. and it should be made as easy as possible for every student to do this. When the fee is made compulsory the cost to each student is reduced to a minimum and no member of the Alma Mater Society is debarred from the use of the building.

The question of a site has caused some discussion. A site on Union street has been offered, but this lot has the disadvantage of being scarcely wide enough, of being difficult to drain, and of being too far from the central heating plant and the college buildings. A more central location would be more desirable. Besides this, there is another reason for not choosing the Union street site. Canada is developing, and Queen's, if she is to remain true to her ideals, must develop too. She has doubled in size within twelve years; she may not double again in the next twelve, but she must certainly grow, and, if so, she must have new buildings. Already the Science and Medical faculties are beginning to feel cramped. It is therefore quite within the region of the possible that less than fifteen years will see a row of college buildings extending along Union street, between University avenue and Arch street. A large gymnasium erected now might easily break the continuity of such a row and prove something of a stumbling block to future development. Queen's should build for the future and not for the present alone. The site favored most by the members of the Athletic committee is that lying between the skating rink and the Medical building. It is central, convenient to the rink and to the upper and lower campus, and close to the heating plant. The only objection to it is that it is crowding the buildings a little too much. Otherwise it would make an almost ideal site for a gymnasium. Everything is going smoothly and it seems safe to prophesy that when the students return next fall they will see a fine new gym. on the campus ready for occupation.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Journal staff for next year was appointed by the Alma Mater Society on March 24th. Two new members, a Literary editor and an Alumni editor have been added. For some time it has been felt that the weakness of our Journal lay in their almost entire absence of contributions from the students. On the new Literary editor will fall the burden of developing this department, and of soliciting contributions from any whom he may think capable of making them. The large and increasing interest which our graduates are taking in the Journal is making it advisable to devote more attention to giving them news of one another. The Journal is almost the only means which many alumni have of hearing what has become of old college friends. We bespeak for the new Alumni editor the assistance of all friends of the Journal both within the college and outside.

One way in which students and Alumni can assist both the Journal and the University is by taking an interest in revising the University's mailing list. A card index containing the addressess of all alumni has been recently established in the Registrar's office. If all students and graduates would see to it that their own addresses and those of their friends are correctly recorded there it would be of considerable assistance to the secretaries of the various Alumni Associations, and the Alumni editor of the Journal.

We wish to direct the attention of our readers to the two special articles in this issue, the one on Dante, by Miss

Saunders, the other on *Life at Oxford*, by Mr. J. M. Macdonnell, Queen's representative at the ancient seat of learning.

The second edition of the University calendar has appeared. Few changes have been made since last year. One change, however, we would like to see. It is scarcely too much to ask that the public should not be told officially as they are told on page 145 of the current calendar, that "part of the space in the John Carruthers Hall is occupied by the departments of Mineralogy and Geology, for which a new building is in the course of construction." The casual reader of a Queen's calendar gets little enough information about the faculties of medicine and science, but what little he does get might as well be correct.

The cool, reasonable way in which the gymnasium scheme and the questions arising out of it were discussed by the members of the Alma Mater Society, was most commendable. There were many difficult points, but all showed a desire to meet them squarely and overcome them instead of evading them. Some members of the society seemed to have some doubt as to what is meant by a representative meeting. The question of increasing the athletic fee came up without notice. The meeting was large and enthusiastic and some members wished to deal with the matter at once, as it was certain that the next meeting would be much smaller. Notice was demanded, however, and the motion to increase the fee held over for a week when at a very small meeting it passed without opposition. The majority of the mem-

bers seemed to think that a representative meeting consisted not so much in a largely attended meeting as in a meeting which had had full notice of the business which it was to transact.

By the time a boy graduates from the public school he is usually supposed to have lost all interest in tops, whistles and marbles. It is therefore pitiful to see a University student whose mind is still so childish as to crave such trifling means of amusement. We watched one of these babies at the Medical Convocation. Sitting beside a pillar in the gallery he tooted his penny whistle all through the devotional exercises until he received a well merited rebuke from the Principal. When an interruption is timely, or clever or witty it can be enjoyed and forgiven, but when it is as childish and stupid and as painfully empty as this urchin's piping was, it becomes intolerable. It is time that the students did something to hold such shallow nuisances in subjection, for the disgrace of the thing falls on the students as a body and not on the cowardly individual who takes refuge in the crowd.

A large number of students have expressed approval of the plan of publishing the University examination papers in faculty pamphlets, as advocated in the JOURNAL some time ago. The students want the papers and are willing to pay a fair price for them, but they are not willing to buy and pay for a great stack of papers for which they have no use. Financially, we feel certain that the scheme would be a success, and besides it would be a great convenience to the students of all faculties.

The forestry question is a pressing one in Canada at the present time and Queen's Quarterly Board need give no apology for devoting a large part of the space in the April number to reproducing several of the papers read at the Ottawa convention in January. There is also an interesting account of the Total Eclipse of the Sun in Spain, last August, by S. A. Mitchell, M.A., '94. Prof. Macphail contributes an article on Zarathustra, and W. L. Grant gives the last instalment of his write-up on the Church and State in France. In his budget of "Current Events," Prof. Cappon discusses the recent storm of exposure among the American princes of high finance, and in his last article scores Mr. G. K. Chesterton, the paradox-loving favorite of the London *Daily News*.

Ladies.

THE elections are over once more, the names of the new officers are given below, and now no one can think of anything but the fiery furnace, heated seven times hot, through which we must pass before the blessed release comes. May it bring laurels to the deserving, and honors and rewards in due proportion to all!

This pious wish reminds us of many things that lie burning in the background, waiting to be said, but how can one write with 'zams to the left of them, 'zams to the right of them, 'zams straight in front of them—could you, I wonder? No; in the presence of these great and manifold dangers, and especially since we know they are as benumbing to the ears of our hearers as to the genial current of our own soul—tacemus.

LEVANA SOCIETY

Honorary President—Mrs. Watson.
 President—Miss Harkness.
 Vice-President—Miss Alford.
 Secretary—Miss Alice Pierce.
 Treasurer—Miss Reeve.
 Critic—Miss Clifford.
 Prophet Historian—Miss Stewart.
 Poetess—Miss Calhoun.
 Convenor Programme Committee—Miss Spencer.
 Convenor Athletic Committee—Miss MacKay.
 Senior Curator—Miss May Hiscock.
 Director Glee Club—Miss Lowe.

Y.W.C.U.

Honorary President—Mrs. Matheson.
 President—Miss McFarlane.
 Vice-President—Miss McKerracher.
 Recording Secretary—Miss McEachran.
 Corresponding Secretary—Miss Hall.
 Treasurer—Miss Cram.

CONVENORS OF COMMITTEES

Programme—Miss Mackintosh.
 Look-out—Miss MacKay.
 Missionary—Miss M. B. Macfarlane.
 Bible Study—Miss McInnes.
 Finance—Miss Cram.
 Rooms—Miss Ross.
 Religious Work—Miss E. Miller.
 Music—Miss Hiscock.
 Silver Bay—Miss Austin.

Freshette (consulting the Levana oracle)—Is an engagement as good as marriage?

Oracle (mysteriously)—Yes; often much better.

Professor—Yes, they used all sorts of weapons in those times—anything that came handy. Proceed with your translation, Miss P.—

Miss P.—“Then the ten men issued from the city, each bearing a hand-spring.”

Professor—Les Précieuses avoided calling a spade a spade. It would be rather an agricultural implement fashioned of iron and wood. A chair was called a “commodity for conversation,” and a violin “l'âme des pieds.”

Miss A. (sotto voce)—“Soul of my sole!”

Some one suggests that the examinations in Grant Hall should open with prayers “for those at sea.”

Arts.

TWO weeks more of drudgery and work is over for the session of '05-'06, and the present senior year will have stepped down and out. It is scarcely worthy of her record that naughty-six has so far failed to leave behind her any tangible memorial of her existence. Had it not been for the gymnasium scheme, the example of naughty-one in founding a Fellowship might perhaps have been adopted. However, it may be there are enough enthusiasts left with energy unimpaired by the stress of examinations to make a move in the direction indicated. It certainly would be pleasureable in the days to come to be able to point out that our year had done something to aid the expansion of the University work. Every department in the Arts Faculty is decidedly over-worked, and it would be to the benefit of professors and students if naughty-

six should decide to perpetuate its memory by endowing a Fellowship. The objection cannot be raised that such a move is uncalled for, or that it would interfere with the present Forward movement. Should it not be possible this year, there is no reason why the matter could not be attended to within the next few years, when the various members might perhaps be in a better position financially to lend their support to the scheme.

A LEAF FROM A SENIOR'S CALENDAR
19th.

“And now commenced a strict investigation.”

“For ruin and dismay they well foresaw.”

20th

“Dry up your tears and do not look so blue.”

21st

“A motley crowd thick gathered in the hall.”

“ . . . At least I will endure whatever is to be borne”

22nd.

“The morn is full of holiday.”

“No matter what poor souls might be undone.”

23rd.

“Yet men . . .
Are very silent when they once believe
That all is settled”

24th.

“While things were in abeyance.”

25th.

“There's fortune even in fame, we must allow.”

“And ordered some death warrants to be sent

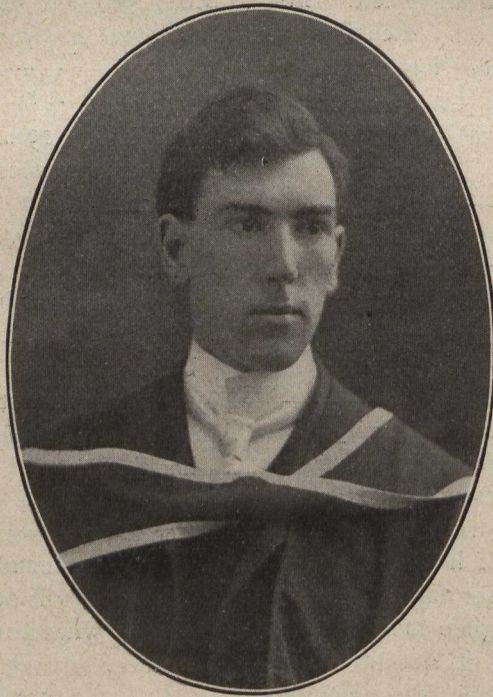
For signature: somewhere the tempest fell,

As many a poor fellow does not live to tell.”

Medicine.

THE Medical examinations are again a thing of the past and the results as announced below show the successful ones. To them we extend our hearty congratulations as they have received the reward of systematic and well-directed effort. Fifty-seven

Lancaster; W. F. Gavin, Lancaster; G. D. Gordon, Kingston; C. W. Graham (B.A.), Kingston; J. Johnston (B.A.), Kingston; W. G. Laidley, Kingston; C. A. Lawler, Kingston; S. L. Lucas, Kingston, Jamaica; F. E. Lowe, Adelphi, Jamaica; S. McCallum (M.A.), Brewer's Mills; J. P. McCormick, Ottawa; D. J. McDonald,



E. BOLTON, M.D., C.M.,
Medallist in Medicine.

strove for the coveted honor and forty-seven succeeded.

DEGREE OF M.D., C.M.

A. E. Baker, Osnabrook Centre; W. H. Ballantyne, Kingston; J. A. Barnes, Kingston, Jamaica; A. M. Bell, Moscow; E. Bolton, Philipville; J. F. Brander, Northport, N.S.; H. Cochrane, Sunbury; G. L. Cockburn, Sturgeon Falls; C. B. Dear, Bridgetown, Barbadoes; D. G. Dingwall,

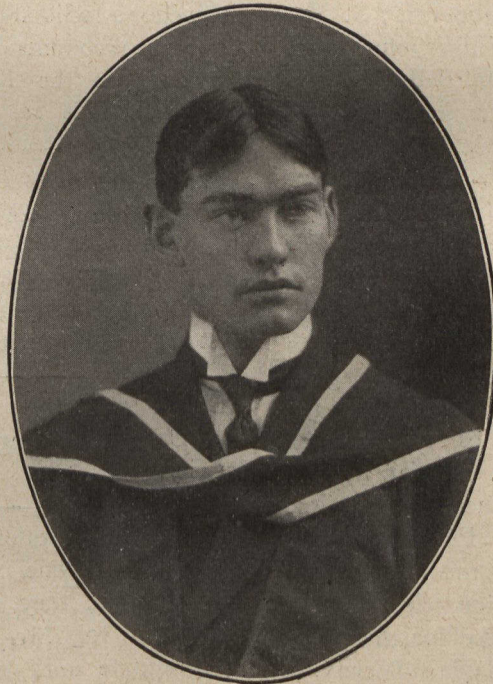
Whycocomagh, N.S.; A. G. McKenley, Chapelton, Jamaica; D. McLellan, Forester's Mills; F. R. Nicolle (B.A.), Kingston; F. J. O'Connor, Long Point; W. M. R. Palmer, Northcote; R. K. Paterson, Renfrew; W. E. Patterson, Newburgh; W. R. Patterson (B.A.), Kingston; L. L. Playfair, Kingston; C. A. Publow, Kingston; H. O. Redden, Ernesttown; J. Reid, Renfrew; A. D. C. Rob, Nashville,

Tenn.; B. A. Sandwith, Whitstable, Eng.; T. F. Saunders, Rhineback, N. Y.; S. S. Shannon, Kingston; S. H. Smith, Chambers; J. B. Snyder, Lancaster; W. E. Spankie, Wolfe Island; J. R. Stewart (B.A.), Waba; E. M. Sutherland (B.Sc.), Montreal, Que.; B. C. Sutherland, Montreal, Que.; W. J. Taugher, Beachburg; C. P. Temple-

New York Alumni Association prize, \$50, in philosophy and histology—H. Dunlop, B.A., Kingston.

Prize in best examination in materia medica—H. B. Longmore, B.A., Camden East.

Dean Fowler scholarship, general proficiency, third year—J. P. Quigley, M.A., Kingston.



L. L. PLAYFAIR, M.D., C.M.
Medallist in Surgery.

ton, Napanee; J. J. Wade, Balderson; D. M. Young, Bristol, Que.

THE PRIZE WINNERS

Best dissection by two students—M. A. McKay, Grenfel, Sask.; R. Hughes, Kingston.

For general proficiency in practical anatomy—F. R. Sargent, B.A., Kingston.

Faculty prize, \$25, for best examination in second year—C. T. C. Nurse, Georgetown, British Guiana.

McCabe prize in pathology, third year—F. H. Trousdale, Hartington, Ont.

University medal in medicine—E. Bolton, Phillippsville.

University medal in surgery—L. L. Playfair, Kingston.

Chancellor's scholarship, \$70, for general proficiency throughout course—E. Bolton, Phillippsville.

Dr. Barker's prize for best examination in mental diseases, \$25—James

Reid, Renfrew.

Prize in clinical microscopy, \$10—
R. D. Paul, Selby.

Class prize in senior surgery—A. E.
Baker, Osnabruck Centre.

Class prize in junior surgery—A.
T. Spankie, Wolfe Island.

Recommended for house surgeons
in Kingston hospital—L. L. Playfair,
Kingston; W. R. Patterson, King-
ston; E. Bolton, Phillippsville; S. Mc-
Callum, Brewer's Mills; John John-
ston, Calabogie; A. M. Bell, Moscow.

THE MEDALLISTS

L. L. Playfair, medallist in surgery,
was born at Playfairville, Lanark Co.,
and received his primary education in
the public school of that place and in
Perth Collegiate Institute, from which
he graduated in 1902 with a senior
leaving certificate. Coming then to
Queen's he has made a very good
course, ranking high in each year's
examinations. Besides winning the
medal this year Mr. Playfair wins a
house surgeoncy in the Kingston Gen-
eral Hospital. Mr. Playfair's great
popularity among the medical students
was shown this session when he was
their unanimous choice for the presi-
dency of the Aesculapian Society, a
position which he filled with dignity
and impartiality. Mr. Playfair ob-
tains his start in medical life early as
he is not yet twenty-two years of age.
That his future career may be as bril-
liant as his college course is the wish
of his fellow students.

Elmer Bolton, medallist in medicine,
is like many other professional men,
an ex-teacher. He obtained his educa-
tion at Harlem public school and Ath-
ens' high and model school. After
teaching in Leeds Co. for three years,
he attended Ottawa Normal school in

1900. During the next two years he
taught at Port Simpson, B.C., and en-
tered Queen's in 1902. Mr. Bolton's
course from the start has been marked
by earnest, steadfast application which
gave him a high rank in each year's
work. In his second year he won the
New York Alumni prize, in his third
year the Dean Fowler scholarship, and
this year besides a medal he wins the
Chancellor's scholarship of \$70 and
has been recommended for a house
surgeoncy in the Kingston General
Hospital. This session he had the
honor of the presidency of the final
year—a position he filled to the satis-
faction of all. Knowing Mr. Bolton's
many good qualities of mind and heart
and his persevering ambition, we have
no hesitation in saying he will make a
most successful practitioner.

Dr. C. R. Mosley, '05, lately of Co-
balt, Ont., is visiting at his home in
the city.

If Mrs. Fay's other predictions are
on a par with one concerning a cer-
tain '06 man, they are wide of the
mark. She told Mr. G. that he would
not graduate until '07. He, nothing
daunted, plucked up courage, and
proved her false. Well done, G.

With this issue we bid farewell to
the '06 Meds. They have at all times
been a stirring year and have, we
think, been filled with the true college
spirit. They did well in their exams.
and depart hence with the good wishes
of all for prosperous and eventful fu-
tures.

On Thursday, March 15, 1906, a
pretty wedding occurred at Daysland,
Alberta, when Dr. Rowland W. Hal-

laday, B.A., was united in marriage to Edythe, only daughter of Mr. S. R. Movrey, of Toronto. After the wedding breakfast, served at the residence of the bride's uncle, Mr. Jas. Movrey, the happy couple left on their honeymoon trip for Calgary, Regina, Winnipeg and eastern cities. To Dr. Halladay and his bride the JOURNAL and medical students offer their best wishes for a happy voyage through life.

Science.

THE Final Year was entertained at dinner by Dr. and Mrs. Goodwin, Saturday evening, March 17th, and the evening proved one long to be remembered. When the many good things at table had been done ample justice to, Dr. Goodwin rose, and after giving us some reminiscences of his college days at home and abroad, called upon the others to follow in the same strain. Nothing could have been more interesting and enjoyable, and the few minutes' talk from the members of the staff present, enabled us to become much more intimately acquainted with them.

Dr. Goodwin, Professors Shortt and Nicol, spoke of Scottish and German university days, and of the Queen's of twenty-five years ago. Professors Gill and S. Kirkpatrick spoke of McGill and of the United States. We were agreeably surprised to hear that Professor Gill in his school days in the little eastern island of triassic sandstone, found difficulties with trigonometry and other necessary evils of a scientific training, and that Professors Nicol and Shortt had taken part in the now historic attack upon the old cowshed that once adorned

our campus. We shall, all of us, remember for many years, the delightful evening Dr. and Mrs. Goodwin arranged for us, and we look forward to our next meeting some years hence when reminiscences of good old Queen's will again be the order of the day.

At a recent meeting of the Engineering Society three excellent papers were read and discussed.

Gasoline Engines—K. C. Berney.

Cements and Concrete Railway Piers—W. R. Rogers.

Irrigation in Western Canada—P. A. Shaver.

Mr. A. G. Fleming, '07, will next year be responsible for this column, and we extend our best wishes. Mr. Robert Potter has been named to act as editor for Athletics, and Mr. Thos. McGinnis as member of the business committee. We are confident that next year, at any rate, Science will be well represented on the Journal.

The sympathy of all students goes out to George Richardson, who so recently was bereft of a loving father.

The exams. are on and many are the regrets over the misspent days earlier in the session. We had our innings, and now the examiners are having theirs—the score to be announced later.

It is to be hoped that something will be done next year to facilitate the arrangement of the examinations. This year it took six drafts to finally satisfy everyone, and only after a good deal of annoyance and loss of time.

The '07-'09 scrap was of the strenuous variety, honors being fairly even. We are glad to hear the freshmen acquitted themselves so well. The hoodlum element heaped untold indignities upon us and as seniors we are rightly incensed and rejoice in their discomfiture.

Divinity.

ANNUAL MEETING OF Q. U. M. A.

THE annual meeting of the Missionary Association was held March 17th, and the business of the year was wound up and a new executive elected. The retiring president briefly reviewed the work of the year, which was one of the most encouraging in the history of the Association. The Treasurer was able to report a small balance on hand and no liabilities. About \$250 will be needed to send out the men to their fields for the summer, but it is expected that this will come in before the session closes. About \$1,500 passed through the treasurer's hands during the year.

The following are the appointments for the summer: D. H. Marshall, B.A., Howe Sound, B.C.; R. J. MacDonald, Aitkin, Alberta; R. W. Beveridge, B.A., Macoun, Sask.; D. A. Ferguson, Disley, Sask.; W. J. Watt, B.A., Stony Beach, Sask.; J. R. McCrimmon, Bonfield, Ont.; R. Brydon, B.A., Orville, Ont.; W. M. Hay, B.A., Tomstown, Ont.

Some important changes were made in the constitution. Two new offices were created, that of critic and of reporter. The critic will make suggestions as to the conduct of meetings, and the reporter will bring the work of the association before the public—this to include the publishing of the

annual report. It is recommended that occasional public meetings be held, and also that reports of all receipts be sent to the General Secretary of the Home Mission Committee and to the *Presbyterian Record*.

The books of the association will hereafter be closed at the end of the college year, so that a clear statement may be shown of what was actually done during the year.

The new executive was elected as follows:

President—W. J. Watt, B.A.
 Vice-President—R. C. Jackson.
 Cor.-Sec.—W. Stott.
 Fin.-Sec.—L. K. Sully.
 Rec.-Sec.—D. A. Ferguson.
 Treasurer—J. Macdonald, B.A.
 Librarian—R. M. McTavish.
 Critic—G. A. Brown, B.A.
 Reporter—W. MacInnes, B.D.

Standing committees, the convenors of which are members of the executive:

Home Mission Committee—J. R. McCrimmon (conv.), A. Rintoul, Miss A. S. Macfarlane, Miss Muriel Lindsay.

Foreign Mission Committee—R. M. Stevenson, B.A., (conv.), A. Laing, Miss M. B. McFarlane, Miss H. C. McIntosh.

Membership Committee—W. E. Hanna (conv.), M. Matheson, and the convenor of the Missionary and Look-out committees of the Y.W.C.A.

The General Assembly's Home Mission Committee are to be commended for their action in raising the salary to be paid to student missionaries. In a very large number of cases it was a matter of personal sacrifice for students to go in mission fields for the summer, and indeed the wonder is that

so many were willing to go year after year when so many lucrative positions were open. Now it will be a little better, and everybody with a sense of justice at all will endorse the committee's action.

The decision to make quarterly payments is another good move on the part of the committee. Half-yearly payments often meant an anxious wait for many a faithful worker, and no man can do his best work when he must go in debt for the necessaries of life. For students going out for the summer, perhaps with a few borrowed dollars in their pockets, the prospect of a grant sometime during the summer will indeed be pleasant. At times it is quite embarrassing to be compelled to deny oneself all but the barest necessaries, or else risk the censure of the authorities by seeking some odd jobs through the week.

And still they are asking for more men. There does not seem to be much prospect of the ministry being overcrowded. Once in a while we notice an article in some of the papers about the scarcity of students for the ministry, and we wonder where the fault lies, or what can be the reason. It seems a strange thing that there are numbers of men who have been in settled charges for ten or twenty or even for thirty years—and have never induced any of their young men to go to college and study for the ministry. Many a young fellow would enter on such a course of study if the matter was rightly presented to him. One of our boys who was on a western mission field last summer was able to report that two young men from his field had decided to go to college with a

view to entering the ministry if they were found to be suitable men. Surely cases like this ought not to be so rare. There is need of men—why not tell people about it? We do not believe in chasing around looking for recruits but we do believe in recognizing a need and in doing something towards supplying that need.

This year the H.M.C. is asking for \$150,000 to carry on their work. They will get it, too. People are quite willing to give when the matter is presented to them in the right light, and when they have confidence in those who administer the funds.

No better choice could be made for convenor of this important committee than Dr. McLaren, and the committee acted wisely in recommending that he be appointed. He knows the work, and the people have confidence in him.

Our classes closed April 4th, although they were supposed to go on for a day or two longer. It is a good sign of the eagerness of the Divinities for knowledge—the fact that so many are taking honor classes, that the exams. could not all be crowded into the allotted space, even when some of us must write two in one day and six or even seven in a week. It was found necessary this year to put on one of the exams. even on a day when classes were to have been held, and the professors concerned kindly gave us the day preceding for a rest and preparation day.

Dr. and Mrs. Jordan entertained the Final Year at dinner on Tuesday, March 30th. Needless to say, all enjoyed themselves thoroughly. We

cannot repay such kindly acts while we are here, but we can pass them on to some lonely souls we may meet with on the days to come.

Our Alumni.

Meeting of the Hamilton Alumni Association.

On Friday evening, March 30, the annual meeting of the Hamilton Alumni Association of Queen's was held in the school-room of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, the pastor of which, Rev. D. R. Drummond, M.A., B.D., is a graduate of Queen's and a member of the Board of Trustees. Prof. Shortt was the speaker of the evening and delivered an address on "The Relation of Education to Business Life." At the close of the lecture a vote of thanks was moved by the Hon. J. M. Gibson, who spoke in most cordial and appreciative terms of the work of Queen's and the address of the evening, as did also Mr. J. H. Smith, County Inspector, who seconded the motion. Prof. Shortt's lecture was evidently highly appreciated by the large audience present to hear him. The *Presbyterian*, in giving an account of the meeting, remarks, "Many of Hamilton's hard-headed business men expressed the opinion, after hearing the lecture, that Queen's graduates could scarcely help having an intelligent grasp of the meaning of education and the way to obtain it if Queen's had many men of Prof. Shortt's stamp."

The election of officers was held after the lecture. Dr. A. E. Malloch, B.A., who is this year Honorary President of the Alma Mater Society, was re-elected as President of the Hamilton Association; Col. M. A.

Logie, M.A., L.L.B., being elected Vice-President, and Dr. J. H. Laidlaw, B.A., Secretary-Treasurer.

Refreshments were provided by the ladies of St. Paul's Church, and after some of the good old Queen's songs had been sung, the famous Queen's yell was given with vigor sufficient to awaken echoes in the distant Limestone City.

On the following Sunday Rev. A. Gandier, of Toronto, and Rev. Robt-Laird discussed the claims of Queen's in four of the leading Presbyterian churches of the city. Rev. Dr. Fletcher has undertaken the work of personal solicitation of subscriptions, and in Hamilton and Dundas the list has already passed the \$9,000 mark. The "Press" of the city was most sympathetic and gave large space and valuable aid to the interests of Queen's.

Queen's Endowment in Toronto

For some weeks Mr. Laird has devoted himself mainly to furthering the Endowment canvass in Toronto. The large majority of men in Toronto who are interested in higher education are prepared to give clear and sympathetic recognition to the valuable work that Queen's is doing. Local institutions rightly make heavy claims upon their generosity and they are not free to help Queen's as liberally as many of them desire. But subscriptions come in steadily and now amount for Toronto and vicinity to upwards of \$30,000.

Prof. Dyde of Queen's University, who occupied the the pulpits of St. Andrew's and Bloor St. Churches, Toronto, last Sunday, made a distinctly favorable impression. Prof. Dyde is a member of the Arts faculty, and

if he may be taken as a fair type of Queen's men, the influence of the institution upon the one thousand young men in its classes must be far-reaching. He cherishes the high ideals of Christian manhood and of the part that each true man has in the making of his country that cannot fail to tell upon the future of the country's leaders.—*Presbyterian* of March 31.

Rev. Logie Macdonnell, M.A., who has given such general satisfaction as assistant pastor in Central Church, Hamilton, has decided to put in a year in Scotland in post-graduate work.

The annual elections of Queen's University Council, to fill the places of retiring members, have resulted in the election of the following eight members, who will hold office until 1912: P. C. McGregor, B.A., LL.D., Almonte; Rev. Eber Crummy, D.D., Toronto; R. S. Minnes, M.A., M.D., Ottawa; J. McD. Mowat, B.A., Kingston; Rev. J. Hay, M.A., B.D., Renfrew; James A. Minnes, B.A., Kingston; Rev. T. C. Brown, M.A., Toronto; Miss A. E. Marty, M.A., Ottawa.

John Miller, B.A., a graduate of Queen's of the year '86, died recently in Calgary, Alta, after a somewhat protracted illness. Mr. Miller was for years a member of the staff of the *Mail and Empire*, Toronto. He subsequently joined the *News* staff and remained with that paper until failing health obliged him to give up newspaper work. He had been living in Calgary for the last three years.

Mr. Miller was a great traveller,

having made three pilgrimages to the Holy Land, Egypt and Morocco, besides frequent visits to Great Britain, France and Switzerland. He was an enthusiastic canoeist, and in his well-known craft, "Micawber," made many long trips, chief among them being one down the St. Lawrence, from Montreal to Quebec, up the Richelieu and down the Sagrenay. He was also well acquainted with the Bay of Quinte, and paid several visits to the New Ontario district. Mr. Miller was a clear, forcible writer, deeply read, and a highly esteemed companion.

P. H. Thibaudeau, B.A. '03, for five years principal of the Wetaskiwin, Alta., High School, has been appointed Inspector of Public Schools in the Lacombe district.

V. W. Jackson, B.A., of Queen's University, who came some two years ago to the Ontario Agricultural College as demonstrator in botany and geology, has received a cablegram from New Zealand, announcing that he has been appointed supervisor of nature study and public schools in the Auckland district. Mr. Jackson's home is near Abingdon, Wentworth County. He will leave towards the end of April and commence duties June 1st. Mr. Jackson is a promising man, and the New Zealanders are to be congratulated on their choice.—*Guelph Mercury*.

Mr. Jackson was a member of the Arts class of '03, and numbers among his friends many still in attendance at Queen's. Together with his friends among the graduates they extend congratulations on his appointment

and wish him every success in his new work. By the way, we hear that Mr. Jackson does not go to New Zealand alone, but full particulars are not yet on hand.

Alfred Bright, B.A., '05, who graduates this spring from the Presbyterian College, Montreal, has been called to the assistant pastorship of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Peterboro.

Rev. Wm. Hay, B.A., M.D., of Wolfe Island, has accepted a call to the Scotland and Micksburg congregation in Lanark and Renfrew Presbytery. The induction took place in the Scotland Church on April 3rd.

The late Rev. Dr. Cunningham Geikie served in Canada from 1848 to 1860 and received the degree of D.D. from Queen's in 1871.

Rev. James Elliott, Ph.D., of the Montreal Wesleyan Theological Seminary, has been appointed to the chair of Philosophy in Wesley College, Winnipeg., succeeding Prof. Blewett. Dr. Elliott was the first to receive the degree of Ph.D. from Queen's, in the year '04, and is regarded as one of the ablest philosophers in Canada. Dr. Elliott is entering upon a position affording wide opportunities and we believe his work will exert a sound and healthy influence upon a wide circle of minds in the growing West.

A Queen's graduate of 1884, Henry Halliday, B.A., died recently at Redlands, California. Mr. Halliday was a Renfrew boy, born about forty years ago. In his university course he took a splendid stand in all his classes,

while on the Association football field—and in those days Queen's was a power in Association football—he always took a prominent part. Some years after his graduation, Mr. Halliday was obliged to go to California for his health and he remained there until the time of his death. The following appreciative notice is from the *San Diego Union*:

Prof. Harry Halliday, formerly principal of the Russ High School in this city, died yesterday morning at Redlands where he has been living for some time.

Professor Halliday was one of the most popular heads the high school here has ever had, and one of the most respected and successful. His coming to Southern California in 1893 was for the benefit of his health, he being a native of Canada, and having received his training for the teaching profession there.

He was first teacher of mathematics at Russ, under City Superintendent Davidson, who was then principal of the school. On Prof. Davidson being elected superintendent he recommended Prof. Halliday as his successor and the latter was chosen for the position.

During the summer of 1902, Prof. Halliday was quite ill and shortly after the new term began handed in his resignation and retired from teaching. Some time before this he was married to Miss Iva Crise, a teacher in the city schools, a daughter of Dr. Crise, of Oscondido.

We are pleased to hear of the marked success that last year's graduating class in Science has met with. One member of the class, H. H. Scott, B.Sc., is now assistant electrical en-

gineer with the Allis Chalmers Bullock Company, Montreal. Four of the class are in the employ of the Westinghouse Electrical and Engineering Company, of Pittsburg: C. W. Baker, W. E. Henderson, O. M. Montgomery and R. G. Gage. These all have been put on special work and their services have proved so valuable that the company has written the faculty here for more good men. A communication to the same effect has also been received from the Canadian Westinghouse Company, of Hamilton, who have offered to take on more Queen's graduates than are at present available. This certainly speaks well for the character of the instruction in the electrical department here.

Another Queen's graduate of an earlier year, '02, H. S. Baker, B.Sc., is also a valued employee of the Pittsburg Westinghouse Company. He has invented for them a recording metre which has proved a great success financially for the company. They have now given him a room and all necessities for carrying on his experimental work.

Mr. Telgmann,
teacher of the Violin and all
String Instruments.

Mrs. Telgmann,
teacher of Elocution.

Address 222 Johnston St.,
Kingston.

Athletics.

VERY favorable progress is being made by the Athletic committee regarding the gymnasium. It is now practically certain that next fall will see the gym. ready for use.

Following on the resignation of G. T. Richardson as captain of the First XIV for next fall, a meeting of first team players decided on W. Kennedy as captain in his stead. The appointment argues well for a successful season, as we feel we can assure Captain Kennedy of the hearty support and confidence of all rugby men round college. D. R. Cameron continues as secretary-treasurer of the club.

Exchanges.

IN looking over the Old Country University Magazine two or three points strike us as worth consideration, showing us how to better the points in our own JOURNAL work in which we are rather weak. The first thing of particular note comes from the *Oxford Magazine* and is the genuinely keen interest they apparently take in the fortunes of their graduates who have become public men. Of course, two things must be considered in this connection—that the general elections in Britain are just over, and that since their university is split up into a number of colleges, the material for the *University Magazine* must be chosen with an eye to what will prove of common interest to the colleges.

The second point is the thoroughness and seriousness which these magazines, both Scotch and English, discuss such matters of relaxation as Sport and the Theatre. How careful-

ly the productions in the different theatres are criticized and compared! Now this has always appeared to us to be a matter of individual interest, a purely personal concern, and quite as devoid of university interest as the fact, for instance, that Mr. X. plays solitaire in the evenings as a relief from hard study. And the questions suggests itself to me, are we really making as much as we might of our slender enough resources in this matter? Something in the way of dramatic criticism might be undertaken by the Dramatic Club and made of considerable value to the rest of the students.

Another matter is the importance given to student contributions. In a single number of the *Glasgow University Magazine* ten out of fourteen items in the table of contents are evidently from the pens of students. There are poems, character sketches, etc., all of good order of merit. The humor is polished and well wrought; the poems may not quite equal Tennyson's, but at any rate they show a trained imagination (or an imagination in training), a pleasing fancy, and are free from barbarous rhymes and mixed metaphors.

From the *Fleur-de-Lis* we clip the following because it seems to us to show a common failing in college magazine work, namely, a sort of forcing of the sentiment as if the writer imagined ideals were applied to Nature as a mustard blister is applied to a sore chest:

ON THE AVENUE

Strange and varied are the characters we encounter in our everyday life. Each has an individuality all its own, which, on being discovered, interests

and sometimes fascinates the beholder with an incommunicable charm.

I was especially impressed by this truth a day or two ago when, on my walk, I happened to notice an old negro who was driving by on an ash-wagon. His clothes, quite consistent with his occupation, were old and ragged. He was tall and lean, and his hair was besprinkled with gray. His back was bent and his hands, knotted and disabled by toil or disease, were scarcely able to guide the team of horses he was driving. His thin old face, pinched perhaps by frequent hunger, was wreathed in smiles of cheerfulness, and, from their cavernous depths his eyes beamed forth his gladness at being able to enjoy the beauty of the world about him. As he sat there philosophizing he impressed me as being a unique character as well as an optimist. Here was a man of a despised race who could teach us, his more favored brethren, precious lessons of patience and resignation. Here was one who, in the face of misfortune, could smile and say: "O Lord, I thank thee."

A southern cotton planter had on his plantation a little boy in buttons called Sam. Sam one afternoon pointed to a bottle on his master's bureau and said:

"Mars Channing, am dat hair oil?"

"Mercy, no, Sam; that's glue," said the planter.

"I guess dat's why I can't get mah cap off," said Sam thoughtfully.

The American fifty-cent piece contains, in reality, only ten cents' worth of silver. Thus, we find on the back the words: "In God we trust"—for the other forty cents.—*McGill Outlook.*