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THE VARSITY.

A Weekly Journal of Literature, University Thought and Events.

VOL. XV.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, OCTOBER 9, 1895.

No. 1.

THE UNIVERSITY COMMISSION.

It is by no means a pleasant duty to have to record the fact that it was found necessary to appoint a commission to investigate the state of affairs recently existing at this University. For, aside from any notions one might entertain concerning the relations which, in an ideal University, should subsist between the student body and the faculty, a request by both the President and students for a commission might lead the public to doubt the efficiency of the apex of the educational system of this Province. It might be unreasonable to expect complete harmony always to prevail in an institution of this kind, but it is truly deplorable when matters reach such a stage that an appeal to outside authority has to be resorted to to restore amity—or at least the appearance of it, for time and tact alone can restore complete confidence where it has been so rudely shaken. Discipline there certainly must be; but discipline is most complete where the evidences of its exercise are the least appreciable. Mr. L. A. Selby-Bigge, late Proctor of the University of Oxford, in discussing the question of college discipline gives it as his opinion that the immediate control of students should be vested not in a *body* of men, but in an individual whose most essential qualification should be that of consummate tact and a thorough intimacy with the character of the men with whom he has to deal. The advantages of such a method must be perfectly obvious, one would think. In the first place, it is recommended on the ground of expedition. In the second place, it is almost impossible for a *body* of men to understand as a whole the intricacies of any difficulty which may arise, and such understanding is absolutely essential to proper action. The above mentioned writer, whose opinion is based on years of experience, maintains that there can be no such thing as a *system* of discipline, that it is a purely *personal* matter, and sums up in the following words: "You must give your disciplinarian a free hand and if he is a failure there is no remedy except to get another man."

We do not propose to relate all the events which culminated in the commission. To most of us they are but too well known. We merely intend to give a brief account of the general procedure and findings of the commission.

The commission, composed of Chief Justice Taylor (chairman), Judge Senkler, ex-Judge Kingsmill, Mr. B. M. Britton, Q.C., and Professor Campbell, was appointed by the Provincial Government from whom it received the

following instructions: "To inquire (1) into all complaints that may be submitted by any student or by any person on behalf of any student, in respect to the discipline or exercise of authority by the Councils of the University of Toronto and of University College, and (2) into all causes that led to the friction alleged to exist between such students and the said councils, and into all matters bearing thereon, and also (3) into the qualifications, conduct, teaching and efficiency of any member of the faculty of the University of Toronto and University College against whom any charge or complaint may be laid before you, and (4) to inquire into the respective powers of the various governing bodies of the University of Toronto and University College with respect to the students of the said University and, College and (5) so far as may be deemed necessary into all matters bearing on the administration

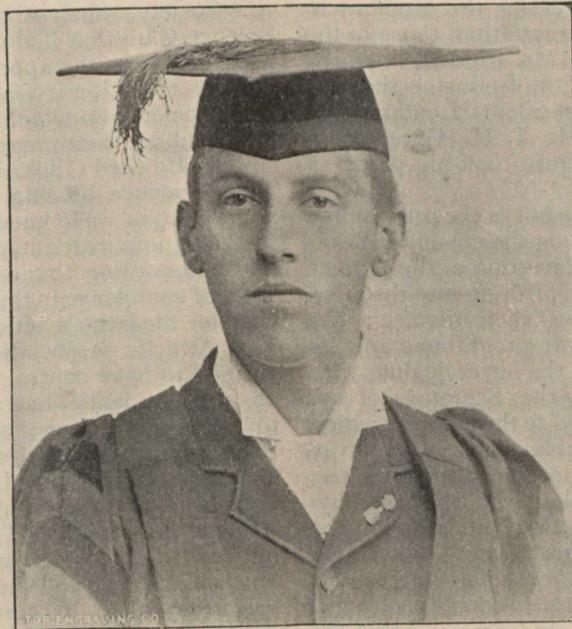
of such bodies since the date of the proclamation of the University, October, 1887, R. S. O. Cap. 230, including their dealings with the discipline of students and the various societies and associations of students, and to report to the visitor of the University of Toronto and the University College, with all convenient speed, the evidence respecting all these matters, together with such findings and recommendations as to you may seem just and proper."

The commission was unquestionably composed of eminent men, but it may seem to some rather extraordinary that of the five only one had by his vocation personal knowledge of the esoteric working of a university or college. Mr. Blake evidently recognized this fact, for it was at his request that Mr. Goldwin Smith consented to confer with the commissioners.

The counsel employed in the investigation were Mr. W.

R. Riddell, representing the students; Mr. S. H. Blake, Q.C., representing the councils of the University and of University College; and Mr. H. J. Scott representing members of the faculty. Mr. Riddell was assisted by a committee of students among whom were Messrs. Tucker, Greenwood, Megan, Gillis and Paterson. These gentlemen deserve the hearty thanks of the whole student body for the zeal with which they watched their interests, heedless of their own, and sacrificing the short time, every moment of which, in view of the approaching examinations, was of the utmost value to them.

The sessions of the commission were held in the amphitheatre of the biological building. Ranged behind the red-covered, counter-like table were the five commissioners. In front of them to the right was placed a table, round which were seated the newspaper reporters. The arena to



JAMES A. TUCKER, '95.

the left was occupied by counsel and professors; while in front of and above all these were the seats reserved for the students and visitors in general.

Tuesday morning, April 8, the commission began its labors. The proceedings were of a very formal nature. The instructions having been read, some discussion took place as to the mode of procedure, and the commission then adjourned until Wednesday, when the charges laid by Mr. Tucker were taken up. These charges, forming part of the historical statement of facts leading up to the friction, were twofold: (1) "That it was beyond the power of the University Council in law to suspend Mr. Tucker;" (2) "that if the power existed it had been unwisely and unfairly used against him." Mr. Tucker was called to the witness stand, and underwent a rigid examination of one and one-half day's duration. To Mr. Riddell he related the circumstances of his resumption of the editorship of THE VARSITY, and of his subsequent suspension from lectures. Following Mr. Riddell, Mr. Blake conducted a very searching cross-examination, taking up from their beginning the VARSITY articles complained of. Mr. Tucker when questioned as to the views expressed in these articles did not for a moment hesitate to give the explanations required or declare his readiness to stand by them. Evasion and quibbling are accomplishments in which he is completely deficient. Mr. Scott also indulged his proclivities for cross-examination, seeming to manifest a strong affection for minute particulars, precise words, phrases, sentences and intonations, and a lively interest in the exact hour and moment when a certain event transpired. He may possibly, as the investigation proceeded, have become aware of his mistake in expecting the students to have memories more retentive and acute than those of the faculty. After a re-examination by Mr. Riddell, in which was brought out very emphatically the feeling on the part of the students of distrust of President Loudon, Mr. Tucker was allowed to go, and Mr. T. H. Greenwood, President of the Political Science Club, took his place in the witness box.

He detailed the difficulties arising out of the programme of the Political Science Club, including the misunderstanding with Professor Mavor over the insertion of the names of Messrs. Jury and Thompson; the printing and distribution of the programmes containing their names; the rejection by the council of the draft programme and its return with the names erased; and the letter dealing with the whole matter finally written by the Secretary of the Political Science Club and forwarded to the council, which Mr. Blake designated "an abominable piece of impertinence." Questioned as to the reason for boycotting lectures, both Mr. Greenwood and Mr. Tucker said that the boycott was inaugurated as a protest against the action of the Government in dismissing Professor Dale. We think, however, that many regarded it as a protest against the refusal of the Government to grant a commission until specific charges were made by the students; and that the dismissal of Professor Dale was only the immediate cause of its being put into operation. Mr. Greenwood also deposed as to the feeling prevalent among the students of a lack of confidence in the President, attributing this feeling to alleged discrepancies in statements made by the President on two or three occasions. The witness repudiated the accusation that he was an agitator; and endeavored to disabuse the council's minds of the notion that he was present in Chicago two years ago during the great American railroad-union strike.

The next witness was Professor Dale who was dismissed by the Government for writing and publishing the letter, so severely criticising some recent appointments, especially that of Professor Wrong, which appeared in the Globe of February 9th. Mr. Dale's position was certainly rather an extraordinary one—that of making charges against his colleagues and the Chancellor through the public press.

It would be unreasonable to hold that because a man is in the service of the Government he must be silent concerning any grievance from which he considers himself suffering; but surely he should avail himself of the proper channels for making his grievance known. It is but justice to the Professor of History to say that the charges made against him by Mr. Dale were proved to be entirely without foundation. Hon. Mr. Harcourt,—the minister that Mr. Dale said had told him that Mr. Blake had interposed on behalf of his son-in-law, Professor Wrong—when placed in the witness box, stated under oath that Mr. Blake had never "approached" the Government nor interfered in any way to advance Mr. Wrong; and that he had refused to discuss the appointment to the Professorship of History. Mr. Harcourt further said that in conversation with Mr. Dale some weeks before the publication of the latter's letter he had sought to clear his mind of the idea that the Chancellor had interfered. While regretting the loss sustained by the University of one of the most efficient members of its staff, and one who enjoyed the esteem of the student body, we cannot, nor could not, from the first see how his action could have resulted otherwise than in his dismissal.

Messrs. R. F. McWilliams, G. M. Standing and J. G. Merrick, officers of the Political Science Club, corroborated Mr. Greenwood's evidence concerning the programme. They also declared that the feeling against President Loudon was spontaneous, and was not instigated by a mere fraction of the students, headed by Messrs. Tucker and Greenwood.

Mr. J. L. Murray, secretary of the Literary and Scientific Society, substantiated the contention of the Political Science Club that it alone had been required to submit its programme for the approval of the Council, by saying that neither the Literary and Scientific Society nor several other societies to which he belonged had ever been required to submit their programmes.

Mr. Edward Gillis, business-manager of THE VARSITY, gave evidence bearing on the shed, VARSITY and gymnasium matters. He knew of students who had been fined for being implicated in pulling down the shed, though they had had nothing to do with the affair. He declared his want of confidence in the President, and cited as his reason therefor the latter's action in regard to THE VARSITY office. The Athletic Association, he said, thought they were entitled to have control of the Students' Union Building, as the students had contributed \$9,000 or \$10,000 to its construction; and the Literary and Scientific Society (the only other student organization that could be a claimant) had waived its claims and expressed its willingness to have the control of the building vested in the Athletic Association. This latter statement was supported by Mr. O. E. Culbert, vice-president of the Literary and Scientific Society. After twelve or fifteen other witnesses had been called to corroborate various parts of the evidence already given, Mr. Riddell declared the case for the students closed; and Mr. Scott opened the defence by calling Professor Pike.

Interrogated by Mr. Scott, the professor dilated at some length on the question of discipline, expressing himself in favour of a very rigorous code of rules. Just how such a code would tend to develop the character of the student by allowing him to exercise discretion was not made very apparent. Surely a university should do more—or at least provide the opportunity of doing more—than develop the merely intellectual and furnish book-learning in bulk. Up to 1891, Dr. Pike thought hustling was "a harmless and boyish freak"; but since then his opinion had undergone a change, owing to the proportions the custom had attained. He would substitute for the comparatively mild hydropathic treatment the more drastic ones in vogue in English and American universities, or, perhaps, that adopted in Germany, of commitment

to gaol. Cross-questioned by Mr. Riddell as to the reason for Mr. Tucker's dismissal, Dr. Pike said it was owing to his refusal to publish an apology, and that the articles written prior to January had been taken into consideration, notwithstanding the fact that no regulation had been laid down as to the management of THE VARSITY, and no warning or protest had been uttered during the autumn against the publication of such or similar articles.

Before proceeding with the evidence of Professors Wright and Galbraith, Chief Justice Taylor commented upon the specific charges against Professors Mavor and Vandersmissen and President Loudon. Those against the President he considered too vague; those against Professor Vandersmissen lacking in particulars.

Professor Ramsay Wright and Principal Galbraith gave testimony similar in substance to that offered by Professor Pike. They approved of the Council's attitude toward Mr. Tucker, and its action in regard to the gymnasium and Political Science programme. Professor Wright, however, admitted that "he did not know of any definite regulation requiring programmes of lectures held by student organizations to be submitted to the Council of the University." Both declared that in their opinion the charge that no confidence could be placed in the statements of President Loudon was simply absurd. Principal Galbraith even "believed that the feeling of hostility against President Loudon had been spread industriously among the students." But this belief, he said, was substantiated only by his general impressions, not by fact. One would have thought that the commission which refused to allow students to express an opinion unsubstantiated by fact would have been acting more fairly had it enforced this rule when members of the faculty were giving evidence.

We have now come to a most important witness, viz., Professor Ashley, from 1888 to 1892 occupant of the chair of Political Science in this University, now professor of Economic History in Harvard University. Mr. Ashley is certainly an eminent man, and his testimony should carry great weight. We cannot do better than quote some passages from his evidence, which has to do especially with Professors Mavor and Wrong. In regard to the former, he said: "Professor Mavor is certainly among the ten or twelve most distinguished British economists." "The articles of Professor Mavor which I have read possess learning, careful method and originality." In answer to the question, "Do you think he can fill the position he now occupies?" Professor Ashley replied: "If indications count for anything, I should say he could." As to Professor Wrong, the witness said that Professor Wrong was working in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, while he was there, and that from daily communication with him he "formed a high opinion of his ability in the department of historical investigation." "It was on this and the extreme care he displayed in his work," continued Professor Ashley, "that I based my opinion." "Last year Professor Wrong sent me the earliest chapters of the Canadian History which he is now writing. It was on these that I based my second testimonial." To Mr. Riddell Professor Ashley said that he had never heard Professor Mavor or Prof. Wrong lecture, but he had heard Prof. Wrong preach, which demanded very much the same qualifications, such as clearness, lucidity and terseness. Regarding the students, he said he had found no want of honor among them. The university administration required fact.

President Loudon then took his stand in the witness-box, and was examined and cross-examined by counsel at considerable length on all the matters of dispute which had been dealt with during the course of the investigation. Want of space prevents our considering his evidence, as also that of Professor Wrong and Professor Mavor. The evidence of the former had to do with his appointment;

that of the latter with the programme of the Political Science Club.

After nearly two weeks devoted to hearing evidence, the last was put in on Monday, April 22nd; and this part of the proceedings being concluded, Mr. Riddell began his address to the Commission. He went carefully over the evidence, directing considerable attention to Mr. Tucker's part of the case. Mr. Blake followed, and, as was to be expected, denounced the conduct of the students in very caustic terms. After a short address by Mr. Scott, Mr. Riddell, in half-an-hour's reply, brought the investigation to a close.

Having now completed a hasty survey of the multifarious incidents of the investigation, we have but one or two other points of importance to note: (1) The suggestions made by Prof. Goldwin Smith; and (2) the report of the Commission itself. Professor Smith "concurred in the establishment of something in the nature of a university court for disciplinary purposes. He recommended that the medical faculty, so far as it was professional, should be severed from the University and formed into an independent body. *With regard to students' societies and students' publications, he gave it as his opinion that the more they were left to themselves and the less the University had to do with them, except in cases seriously calling for interposition, the better.* He concurred in the establishment of a new council, consisting of the joint professoriates of both the University and the colleges. His last recommendation was that the University should be severed from the Provincial Government, and that its establishment should be placed in its own hands to be administered through a committee of the Senate, or such a body as might be thought best, and that all appointments be vested in the hands of the University. In case of legislation by the Senate, its enactments should perhaps be submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, or in some other way, to the Government for ratification."

The report of the Commission was made public about May 1st. The chief findings are as follows: (1) The articles published in VARSITY regarding University affairs were offensive and entirely beyond the line of fair comment. (2) The University Council has entire authority over and responsibility for VARSITY. (3) The University Council and University College Council were within their rights in dealing with Mr. Tucker as they did; at the same time, *the course of the Council would have been more consistent had they, instead of suspending Mr. Tucker, acted on the first resolution, and, on the failure to publish the apology, withdrawn all the privileges of the paper arising from its connection with the University.* (4) There is no foundation for any charge, or even suspicion, that Hon. Edward Blake used his influence to secure Professor Wrong's appointment. (5) The action of the Council with reference to the programme of the Political Science Club was really based on the reason assigned, that the Club had issued a programme different to the one authorized. (6) The claim of the Political Science Club that they had the right to select outside lecturers to speak in the University is untenable. (7) The action of the students in issuing the unauthorized programme, and in refusing to print the required apology in VARSITY, was contumacious. (8) The students failed to show justification for their feeling of dissatisfaction with President Loudon. (9) The Council was justified in refusing the students control over the Students' Union Building. (10) *There was a want of tact in dealing with the students at certain periods of the troubles.* (11) There has existed in the past, on the part of the students, a misconception as to the position they occupy with reference to the councils and the degree of obedience they are bound to render to the authorities."

In view of the opinion expressed in clause 3, *re* the inconsistency of the Council in suspending Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Blake's designation of the conduct of the students as

childish, one might have expected the display of a little magnanimity when Mr. Tucker's case was subsequently dealt with. The finding contained in clause 4 is gratifying not only on account of Professor Wrong, but because it justifies the feeling of respect and confidence which the undergraduates of Toronto University entertain towards its illustrious Chancellor.

The findings, on the whole, were doubtless adverse to the students; but in view of the numerous reforms suggested, and the opinion expressed that tact—the primary condition of success, the lubricator of this complex mechanism—was wanting, we must not regard the Commission as altogether futile. The future progress of this University, prognosticated in such glowing terms in the concluding paragraph of the report, will, we have no doubt, be assured when adroitness in the exercise of authority becomes quite palpable.

WITH A PORTRAIT OF "FLOSSY,"

PRESENTED TO FLOSSY'S MISTRESS ON HER WEDDING DAY.

Of all the tiny race of Skye
 The prettiest, so friends say, am I.
 My name is Flossy, well bestowed,
 A silkier coat Skye never showed;
 With sable back and silver head,
 Blue bow, and feathery paws outspread,
 As on my crimson rug I lie,
 What fairer sight for painter's eye?
 Short are my legs, yet mark my pace,
 When'er I cats or postmen chase!
 In human language if I fail,
 What so expressive as my tail?
 See how it wags, as if to say,
 "Dear Mistress, a glad wedding-day."
 Though bounded is my being's range,
 And knows no world beyond The Grange—
 A universe by half a span
 Less than the universe of Man—
 Yet am I queen of all I see,
 The household are but slaves to me.
 Let others toil the living day,
 I play and sleep, I sleep and play,
 Or in my carriage proudly ride,
 Two fair attendants at my side.
 Gaily I live, by all caressed,
 And in a doting mistress blessed,
 Affection's happiness I prove,
 And see no fault in those I love
 Nor when my little bones are laid
 Beneath the turf on which I played,
 And when the rug which now I press
 Each winter eve is Flossiless,
 Shall Flossy die, but pictured here
 To her loved mistress still be dear.

GOLDWIN SMITH.

That which is not good for the swarm, neither is it good for the bee.

Fame is like a river that beareth up things light and swollen, and drowns things weighty and solid.—*Bacon*.

Remember that to change thy opinion, and to follow him who corrects thy error, is as consistent with freedom as to abide in thy error.—*Antoninus*.

Read not to contradict and confute, nor to believe and take for granted, nor to find talk and discourse, but to weigh and consider. Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested.—*Bacon*,

A FRESHMAN'S ACCOUNT OF THE LIT. ELECTIONS.

When at the close of the last Constitution Night the gentle-spoken Hendry rose to murmur something about the possibility of arranging a successful election, and Mac-Williams leaped upon a chair to fling down the gage of battle in valorous answer, I did not at all comprehend the meaning of the affair. I found out later that the Literary Society needed a golden shower, and these were the heralds of the rain-makers. All the heavy cannonading which followed was but "noise and fury, signifying nothing"—save a generous desire for the good of Alma Mater.

The opening shots came in the form of manifestoes. These papered the bulletin board, and were of considerable moment. Each side laid down its platform, saving nails for the opponent's coffin. Below the highly moral principles set forth, were many great names: Tucker, the David of the editorial sling; Megan, swift and subtle of tongue; Culbert of insidious art, loved by friend and hated by foe; MacKinnon, dark-browed with resolve, and bristling with constitutional points—these were leaders by nature and by choice of the electorate.

Then came caucuses and committees. '95 grasped us warmly by the hand and told us secrets in brotherly confidence. "If we don't corral the freshies in these first days we may give them up," was the remark of a senior—not however made to '98. Campaign literature was flung upon the kindling fire in armfuls. The printer played the hose upon his hissing press, while half a dozen party messengers conjured him to be quick and despatch. In caucus the stirring rod of eloquence agitated the bubbling caldron to tumultuous boilings.

Now it was Friday afternoon. "Student" and "University" took their places in the year circle, and when the chairs were shoved back, candidates stepped forth, prepared alike for noose or chaplet. Then came cheers, and secrecy till the dramatic declarations of the evening.

Nomination night was such as only that night of nights can be. The noise and glare of it drew the muffs from deepest depths of oceanic plugdom, and all our *Quartier Latin* poured forth, exuberantly brandishing the official bludgeon. Amid hostile yells and stampings the great ones made oration, commending the lesser and unknown to the admiration of all who were yet open to conviction. Of these there were few, for the house had divided against itself, and nought was to be gained over save chairs. At times one of them, caught between a "Student" and a "University" man, would be violently agitated and come out of the argument weak in the back and altogether shaky in the legs. At such moments the assembled electors stood up and shouted for order, as also did the president. Indeed the demand for order was a crying one, repeated till it became simply vociferous and far exceeded the supply.

I don't remember what the speeches were about. In fact they were about the same, the last word being altered because it was generally the name of the nominee. I have a faint recollection that certain seniors were most slanderously attacked for indulging in personalities. Also it came out that at the back of the Students' Party was a principle—which it kept there, and the chief plank in the platform of the wearers of the elaborate badge was "etc." I do distinctly remember that the Constitutional One enlarged at great length on the dazzling intellect and natural propensity to virtue of a sophomore whom he had in simple innocence mistaken for some one else; however, most of the other side were kind enough to set him right. Between nominations the Students' Party endeavored to drive their clubs through the floor with the very laudable purpose of putting down corruption, while their enraged adversaries replied with tumult of horns and hoofs. In fact a great election had been launched. We came away croaking hoarsely—but not of defeat.

The next week was one of empty lecture-rooms and crowded corridors, of arguing knots and haranguing orators. The air was rife with all-night caucuses and "literature." Herein was much ado about Greek letters and inconsistency. Most of the stuff was poor and paltry, the authorship of nasty innuenda and attack concealed by anonymity. The thing came to verses and cartoons at last. Badges there were galore, and enthusiastic cheers for the ladies who would wear them. No work was done, and two Sauls busied themselves picking out the "Committee of Moral Suasion." Indeed this was rightly looked upon as the great reality in the election. It was the deciding power. Though the guileful Culbert had griped the available rooms of Richmond Hall for the University Party, MacArthur, leader of the Students' Brute Force, could smile sweetly as he spoke of a plan of action which would crush all scheming in titanic grasp.

To tell of the great night, the night of elections, I should have the solemn fervour of a hundred graduates and the fiery vigour of a legion of freshmen. How shall I do it justice! It was the time when æstheticism was flung off with stiff collars, and the best of Varsity became beautifully barbarian. It was the moment when the title of gentleman, so beloved by old ladies, yielded to that of man. Mind was to give way to matter, and the man should stand forth as Carlyle would have had the world do, without deceiving dress. Truly here was local colour, the blue and white warmly tinted with the pink of flesh, and, after a time, daubed with a goodly red!

When I arrived many of the champions were already on the field. Some were in foot ball togs, the Rugby men laced up tightly for the first waltz. Others had donned bags, and were being sewed up to the chin with pack thread—a sight finely masculine! Men kept drifting in from the committee rooms at Chivrell's or upstairs, where the parties held their camp, commissariat and hospital. They surveyed the scene approvingly. The door of the polling booth, the pass to victory, was midway between the hall entrance and the wall. Setting aside some boxed-in pipes and a radiator, there was clean charging ground to the much coveted corner.

Shortly after eight o'clock the University Brute Force filed in, a stout and numerous band, and took possession of the point of vantage. The Students' leader gathered his men—alas, too many had shunned the war—and banked them tightly against the wall. Raising a mighty shout they urged forward, a wedge to pry their opponents from the door. In a moment the guerillas flung themselves upon them, swooping down upon the unprotected flank. In mad clinch they came away, and rolled on the floor in writhing clumps. Sometimes a score were down at once. It was a wild fight. The Students' column jammed its van steadily along the wall, every man's arms locked about his neighbor's waist; and the big University scimmagers tore off the outsiders. *Hors de combat* for a rubbing time, they plunged in more fiercely than before; yet some of the weaklings, banged and bruised, limped to the piled-up benches.

There surged the non-combatants, with cheers when the attackers gained a foot, and counter cheers when the doughty defenders heaved them back. And when half a dozen of the lighter weights flung themselves upon an Ajax or Achilles and dragged him down, like hounds upon a stag of ten, some in respectable dress would be overcome by the desire for battle, and hastening to the back of the hall, throw off their upper garments. For in the melee when the man could not be tugged from the mass there was a rending of cloth, and most of his shirt or jersey passed away without him, to be waved in the murky air like unto a conquered standard. Thus it was that prize-fighting garb became popular, and those not stripped by the enemy were content to strip themselves. So fought itself out the first battle. At one time the door was almost taken, but the power behind the attackers was weakening. Men fell away in dozens. Mortal determination is still

mortal. The first half was over. The University champions came out covered with glory—some with little else. It had been a full and mighty hour.

Then came refreshment. Of the University Party committee rooms I know naught save enthusiastic hearsay. But the feasting of both sides must of needs have been much the same. In our banquet-hall big cool Northern Spies went down with boiling coffee, and a hundred gallant faces split before soul-satisfying sandwiches. The weary drooped over chairs, and some with hair like that of the picturesque Papuan after a swim, and faces streaked with sweaty smears, attempted to captivate the hearts of the goddesses behind the lunch-counter. Upstairs haggard-faced leaders scanned the lists, and in moments of weakness wished fervidly for cabs. Both sides swallowed their last mouthfuls, and breathed long, opening broad chests and feeling their biceps. The moment was at hand.

Of the last, the great attack there come to me vivid recollections, but they make only a long and broken impression. It was a doggedly fought struggle for the corner, the position of command; otherwise it was without system or government. The Students' column formed up, and drove like a battering-ram upon the defending phalanx. Then did the Titans meet the powers of Olympian Jove. Great shoulders and corded arms closed in fierce embrace, and from panting mouths came furious shoutings. So for a long hour there was combat, the hand-to-hand tuzlie of primitive man.

In the lulls could be heard the deadened tinklings of the piano at the end of the hall, for, while resting, the warriors invoked the muses. The spectators clambered upon one another, and at times the benches cracked and came smashing down under their swaying burden. Graduates gloated over the glorious old time fight, and strangers marvelled, feeling twitches of that natural animal which evolution cannot destroy.

But only from within was the Brute Force a reality. The man who pitched himself into the melee could alone drink the joy of it, the great joy of battle. There in the stifling jam he clung to his fellows, straining forward. His atmosphere was sweltering heat, one of many breaths, of murky dust, and streaming perspiration. His head throbbed, and his chest was breaking in, but the fierce excitement overcame all else. He saw the sick, drawn faces of those in the corner, and when he heard them cry for time above the yelling and the shuffling of many feet, he helped to pull them out, pushing himself into their places. He fought on, gasping, his eager gaze fixed on the longed-for door. His hair hangs over his smarting eyes, and into his mouth drips bitter sweat. But he still holds out, biting his teeth together. A brawny arm works its hostile way about his waist, but a friendly giant behind him wrenches it away. Now the rooty fingers lock themselves about his neck. This time they will not loosen. He goes down, in his nostrils the hot and salty reek of armpits, down rolling in the rags upon the dusty floor. Amid shouts of warning they drag him out. But his comrades speak words of praise, and he is exalted to the gods.

The battle waged till almost midnight, and the hall was shaken till a great cake of ceiling plaster fell, and was heeded not. But the door was not taken. Yet it was a glorious defeat, and the songs which went up about the Students' piano were as jolly as those in the room upstairs. There was more feasting, and then we went home to be weary for many days.

But, oh ye freshmen of this year, and ye too, who shall write the double duck-egg after your names when your time comes, forget not that these elections are what ye must maintain, giving freely of pelf and muscle; for herein is true glory, and a manly joy far exceeding that which comes from first places on examination lists, and vain positions on class committees. For the most of such idle pride is little more than ink and paper, but the Brute Force will ever be a thing of flesh and blood.

The Varsity

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A LAD O' PAIRTS.

GRATEFULLY we dedicate the first editorial in the first issue of the new year to the one who guided THE VARSITY so fearlessly and safely through the wild storms of the days that seem but as yesterday. He who did so much for this paper, and who sacrificed so much in his brave attempt to better this University, is doubly entitled to a tribute of affection and admiration, which shall give expression, however faintly, to the feeling which is universal in the hearts of those who are left to carry on the good work that he began.

James A. Tucker was a man after our own heart; a man worthy to be held up as an example. He was a brilliant student, yet ever took a keen interest and active part in all college institutions and customs. He was a boon companion, a kind-hearted gentleman and a steadfast friend. There was not an undergraduate but was his friend and admirer. He wielded over them an influence for good, and called forth from them an affectionate devotion which he could never have suspected. Few men in college life have possessed so powerful an influence over their fellow-students; and none ever strived more conscientiously to exercise it ever for good.

The life of the recent editor of THE VARSITY previous to last year was quite uneventful: he having taken the usual course through the Public School and Collegiate Institute into the University. It is said that the child is father to the man; and we surely have a notable instance of it here; for, while "Jim" was as yet uninitiated into the mysteries of letters, we find him issuing a little weekly, whose columns used to be filled with large and small dots to represent the printing. If the key to those hieroglyphics could be discovered, the little journals would doubtless prove interesting and profitable reading. During

his schooldays he was always conducting some little paper, and at the Collegiate Institute was the editor-in-chief of the *Auditorium*, the organ of the Literary Society. From thence he rose to a position on the staff of the *Owen Sound Times*, which he has held for the last four years, devoting his holidays to newspaper work. His latest appointment was to the chair of editor-in-chief of this paper, a position which owing to peculiar circumstances, he held for the entire year, with the exception of but one issue. Mr. Tucker has always been a lover of books and a ceaseless reader, taking special delight in the poets. As is well-known, he has written quite extensively, his contributions in verse having been published in English, American and Canadian magazines. He has also shown ability with his pencil, contributing several cartoons and comic sketches to *Grip*. In religion he is a Presbyterian, having united with the Church when about seventeen years of age. In this city he was a communicant and regular attendant at Old St. Andrews.

The days of last spring are still fresh in our minds, and all know the part Mr. Tucker took in those sad, but stirring events. By nature none too strong, he devoted his energies and time so entirely and untiringly to the work in hand, that at the last he was on the verge of physical collapse. Day after day, for months, he worked unceasingly to bring to completion the task he had set himself to perform. Night after night, far on into the morning, with aching head, weary brain and discouraged heart, that man toiled incessantly. On him, as editor of the college journal, lay the responsibility of the actions of those who received their incentive from his pen—a burden not lightly borne. Besieged with visitors, he welcomed all with a bright smile and warm pressure of the hand. No man could talk with him without being encouraged to persevere and go forward. He was at his very best when entertaining in his own room; but he will not soon be forgotten as he stood on the platform, addressing his fellow students. His moderation of speech and earnestness of delivery had irresistible force; while his modesty and retiring nature, that shunned undue publicity, won for him the respect of all. The greatest physical and mental trial he had to endure was the work and anxiety of the days immediately preceding and during the sitting of the commission. The severity of that prolonged strain on his system can be appreciated by himself alone; yet not a minute was lost, not a murmur was heard. Then came expulsion and banishment. The dark curtain has fallen, and he will appear no more upon this stage for ever. Only a fond recollection remains to be cherished—the recollection of a man who did all things with an eye single to the glory of his university; a man who made up his mind what was right and did it, regardless of consequences. Oh, for a thousand such men as he in this university of ours!

In the name of all who knew him, THE VARSITY wishes for Mr. Tucker every encouragement and the highest degree of success in his new field of labour; and hopes that he will ever consider as his sincerest friends those with whom he came in contact during his undergraduate days at the University of Toronto.

WHAT NEXT?

Another campaign has opened, and armour doffed for a period of respite and relaxation must again be donned. Weapons must be brightened and sharpened, equipments refurbished, standards unfurled and the march resumed. The Freshman has been promoted to the rank of Sophomore, the latter to that of Junior, and he in turn has become at last a Senior. Once more all is in readiness. Every mind bent on doing valiantly; every heart beating high with hope; we await the command to move forward. Then when the word is given let every man, let every student in this University step out fearlessly and keep in step. Let us keep in touch with the men on each side of us, and we will never be left behind. We must not fall asleep, for we would stumble and be trampled under foot. We must not mutiny, for we would be put in irons. We must not desert, for we would suffer ignominious death.

We have a goal to reach, a mission almost sacred to fulfil. The maintenance of the fame and honor of our University devolves largely upon us. In a great measure it rests with us to say what position she shall occupy in the ranks of the world's centres of learning. Ours is the glorious privilege proudly to bear her standard to the front of the array, amid the plaudits of her veteran sons; and ours is the awful alternative ruthlessly to drag her colors in confusion and disgrace through the mire and filth of inward dissent, wranglings, bitterness and hatred. Truly the responsibility is great; but we should not, we dare not attempt to shirk it.

Last spring we felt that we were called upon to take action against growing evils which were steadily tending to lower the high standard of efficiency raised and upheld in past years by our Alma Mater. We believed that indolence, inefficiency and double dealing existed in high places. We believed that good conscientious work could not be done while there was such open hostility between members of the Faculty and the Undergraduate body. Unanimously we believed that so long as the present incumbent of the presidential chair continued to hold office, so long would the University of Toronto be a by-word in the mouths of collegians the world over. For, not a dissenting voice was heard among twelve hundred students when this statement was formally presented before the court which tried us for sedition and rebellion: "*He has entirely failed to win and keep the respect or confidence of the Undergraduates during his incumbency of the office of President*"—a charge which we trust is, and forever will be, unique in University history. We complained that those words reflected accurately the universal belief of the student body, and that, such being the case, there never could be the harmony, the mutual confidence and trust which must necessarily exist between governor and governed in a college, if the best work and the happiest results are to be attained. Therefore, we prayed then, and ever will pray, that our President may be a man whom we can admire and love; a man to whom the hat will involuntarily be raised; a man whom we will be proud to claim our own.

Believing these things honestly, and convinced that it

was our duty to do what we could to remedy them, we petitioned for a commission of investigation and enquiry which was ultimately granted; and five eminent men of three provinces were appointed by the Ontario Government, presumably for that purpose.

On the proceedings before the Commissioners, and on the report submitted by them to the Government, we make no comment, as these matters are dealt with in another part of this paper by one whose words will be sure to command the attention of the Undergraduates which they so justly deserve. Court decided that the students had raised a false alarm; that they had no grounds whatever for their beliefs; and that if the affairs of the University were conducted in future just as they had previously been, with the addition, perhaps, of a wee bit more tact and a trifle less fickleness, she was assured of a dazzling future. So ended the introductory farce, amid very weak applause. The stage has been cleared and the play proper is about to begin.

What next? We shall never be granted another commission; so anything of that nature is clearly out of the question. Various wild suggestions have been offered, all of which, if truth were known, arise from mingled feelings of contempt, hatred and spite. Through fear that some of these suggestions might be put in practice, and that certain members of the faculty and of the governing bodies might be ridiculed by two thousand students in the presence of the elect of the city; through fear that the graduates and undergraduates would so far forget themselves as not to show the full amount of respect towards the head of the university that such a dignitary in any other college would command; and through fear that Convocation would but serve to lay bare to the public eye the sores that have long been festering—for these reasons mainly the authorities, we believe, decided to do away and dispense for this year with an institution and a day that has for years been looked forward to expectantly by every student who would enjoy the privilege of being present. But any one who entertains any such doubts as to the manner in which the students would conduct themselves at Convocation credits them with far less of common-sense than they in reality possess. We would have nothing to gain and everything to lose by indulging in any such folly. To act in a spirit of purely vindictive spite would be to incur the merited contempt of the outside world, and destroy for years to come the faith of the people of this country in our good intentions. There were serious grievances and they still exist; for nothing has been altered. We took the only possible course under the circumstances. We applied to the very highest authorities for an investigation into the grounds of our grievances and for remedies to heal. This was granted us; but no grounds were discovered and, consequently, no remedies applied. We are just where we were before the commission was granted, as far as practical results are concerned. We are powerless. Let us candidly admit that undeniable fact right at the opening of this new college year. There was but one heart in the Undergraduate body; and it was filled with love for this college and an honest desire to promote its welfare. We sacrificed sleep, work and money.

THE VARSITY.

We obtained the ear of Cabinet Ministers. We engaged legal talent of the highest order. We arrested the attention of the press all over the continent. We did everything that could be devised, and left not a pebble unturned to effect the changes in the faculty and management of this university that we believed were absolutely necessary for the furtherance of her best interests and her future efficiency. But we were misunderstood; and the good we would we could not.

What next? Since we are powerless to take any successful aggressive action for the welfare of our university, there is clearly but one course which we can pursue with dignity and any hope of success. We cannot effect the removal of those whom we long to see replaced by men more fit for the position. Let us then carry the standard of Alma Mater to the front in spite of them. We must maintain her fair fame, and the first essential requisite is that harmony exist within her borders. Let us manfully accept the inevitable and do our best. We must practice patience. All things come to those who wait. Every cloud has a silver lining. We believe that the governing bodies must have at least as much interest as the students in preventing the recurrence of open hostilities, so disastrous to the good name and prosperity of the university. There must be harmony—outward appearance of it, if nothing more; and if we honestly wish to restore the reputation of our university among her sister colleges, we will now do all in our power to accomplish this end. Let us do what is our plain duty and go half way. Let us not stoop to indulge in revengeful spite. Whenever there are any real encroachments upon the rights of the student-body, THE VARSITY will not hesitate to deal with such matters in the capacity of the mouthpiece of the undergraduates. But we should not go about searching for slights.

In the meantime, let us enter into the spirit of university life with all the zeal of which we are capable; keep up established institutions and infuse with new life the time-honored customs. Let us strive to make this academic year a success in every respect, a year to be looked back upon with fond recollections and pride. Let us be reunited in a solid influence for good, which nothing can resist. Each one strive to do his whole duty by his university, and she must proudly raise her head once more and outlive her humiliation.

Why, tell me, do the masters teach
Their lads the easy art of speech,
And afterwards all things take part
To teach them not to use the art?

Why has it been so often said
That modern verse is never read,
When long experience has shown
That every writer reads his own?

If life is not an empty dream
And things are truly what they seem,
Why does not every tutor toot,
And why do suitors seldom suit?

Mock not a cobbler for his black thumbs.

Moles don't see what their neighbors are doing.

Man does not grow perfect in a hundred years, but in one day he may become corrupt.

See if there is anything in a question before you discuss it, or you may make much ado about nothing. Never comb a bald head.

TO THE WOMEN UNDERGRADUATES.

Many articles have appeared in the columns of VARSITY earnestly exhorting the men students to use their four years' course of study, not only as a means of presenting a certain certificate to the world, but also as a means of broadening their sympathies, and of giving them some practical knowledge of their fellow creatures. This is, however, the first instance in which the women students have been appealed to for the same end; and it is done now with the conviction that a word to the wise is sufficient, and that, in the future, the girls will take a more vivid interest in one another and in all that concerns student life.

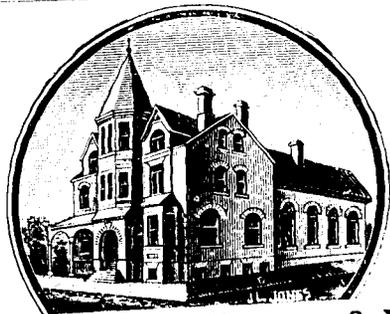
One of the greatest dangers that a girl has to face and overcome when entering college is the tendency to become self-absorbed. She feels that these four years offer a precious opportunity for enriching her mind; and in the earnest pursuit of knowledge, and in the keen race for a high place in the class lists, she is apt to forget that books are not the source of all wisdom, and that, in college, she has a rare opportunity for developing, through contact with her fellow-students, not only her powers of mind, but also those of heart. The pleasantest women to meet, and the ones who usually exert the most potent influence, are those who have, in its broadest sense, the quality we call sympathy. Experience shows us continually, that the most erudite people have not always the most generous attitude of mind toward the opinions and ways of others, for the reason that study, pursued merely as such, tends to narrow, rather than to widen our sympathies. It behooves us, then, not only to gather as much as possible from the books we are at work on, but also, that we may not grow pedantic and narrow, to gain all the experience we can from actual contact with the minds around us. It is our bounden duty to have both a generous and receptive attitude towards our fellow-students. The girl who goes through college without evincing any interest in, or good-fellowship towards her co-workers, shows plainly that she lacks the essential elements of consideration and courtesy, without which a woman, whatever be her mental training, is graceless and unadorned. Numberless opportunities are daily afforded us for showing, by little acts of graciousness and kindness, that we are really one in spirit with those who labour with us.

The different college societies offer the best means of becoming generally acquainted, and also of promoting the *esprit de corps* among the students, which is so much to be desired. The Women's Literary Society is the most important on account of its wide scope, which gives every member an opportunity of doing something in a literary, dramatic, rhetorical, musical or social way; and almost every person is talented in at least one of these directions. The Y.W.C.A., the Women's Glee Club, and the clubs of the different courses, are all very helpful along their special lines of development. Every girl should feel it a duty which she owes to the student body, to belong to at least one of these societies, and not merely as an inactive member, but as a worker. She thus shows her willingness to identify herself with those around her, and opens up the way for gaining a knowledge of character, which must be of inestimable value to her through life; for all education is vain unless it enables one to exert a greater influence for good over others than one could do without it.

Let us, then, enter heartily into all that concerns student-life, and so employ our four years that we can feel, when we leave the college halls, that the time spent in them has served not only greatly to broaden our mental horizon, but also to make us more companionable, more sympathetic, and more powerful for good.

B., '96.

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OBITUARY.

The all-ruling God has seen fit again to visit us with the Angel of Death, from whose dread presence we can none escape. He has come amongst us in the summer season of pleasure and torn away one whom the University can ill spare.

We refer to the unfortunate death of Dr. D. W. McGee, the announcement of which on the 22nd of July last cast a deep gloom over everyone who had the good fortune to be acquainted with his scholarly attainments and cheerful, animated disposition. Mr. McGee entered the University from Jarvis Street Collegiate Institute in '87, and throughout his undergraduate career proved himself a man of unusual merit, as evidenced by his being awarded the Lyle Medal in Orientals and the Governor General's Gold Medal in two departments. In his favorite department of Orientals, Mr. McGee was so successful that he was, immediately after graduating in '91, appointed Lecturer in his favorite subject; a position which he filled with eminent success. After spending two summers in Germany, Mr. McGee obtained a year's leave of absence, and during last winter studied in Breslau, from the celebrated university of which city he received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (*magna cum laude*); his final thesis being a masterly exposition of the topography of the ancient city of Babylon.

The visitations of death are always sad: but saddest of all when occurring in the midst of health and happiness in that sudden and unexpected way which leaves us overwhelmed by a sorrow of which we had no anticipation and stunned by a loss we are only now beginning fully to realize. The circumstances of Dr. McGee's death are too well known to require repetition here; we can but look forward to that glorious time when all mysteries shall be explained, and when, among a host of other promises, we are assured that the sea shall give up its dead.

In the death of Dr. McGee the Department of Orientals has lost one who gave every promise of doing brilliant work in its behalf, a man of incisive manner and clear intellect, coupled with an unusual aptitude in acquiring linguistic forms.

The numerous friends of the deceased will ever remember his cheerful and humorous disposition, the ringing notes of a voice now forever silent, and the hearty grasp of a hand forever still.

THE VARSITY desires to express, not in mere words of conventional form, but from feelings of deepest respect and admiration, its sympathy with the bereaved, and particularly with one who, we feel, has had a heavy cross laid upon her in her old age, by the death of an only and beloved son.

OUR GYMNASIUM.

"The University of Toronto possesses a finer gymnasium room than either Yale or Harvard." Such was the impartial statement of a gentleman who had inspected the gymnasium in these two seats of learning. This practically places our gymnasium in a position second to none of those of any college in America, and every student should strive to maintain its high position by every means in his power, which, in the present case, is by becoming a member as soon as possible. The directorate of the Athletic Association extends a very cordial invitation to every student in the university, especially the gentlemen of the first year, to come and inspect the gymnasium and the various improvements that have taken place in the grounds surrounding the building. Since Commencement all the ap-

paratus has been carefully examined, and, wherever found worn or broken it has been replaced; many new articles having been added, also, to the already magnificent equipment. The bowling alley and locker rooms have been especially attended to; all the balls have been turned, floors re-set, buffers re-padded, and new pins purchased. In fact everything has been done to maintain the high standard in equipment, and to furnish additional facilities for athletic exercise. The directorate of the Athletic Association, as well as the University Faculty, desires to impress on the students the need of a careful physical training as an offset to the severe mental strain caused by a too rigorous application to the new curriculum. Athletic men, it is well known, have never been known to faint at the mere sight of an examination paper. So, in order to allow every student in the University the opportunity of enjoying all the advantages of a physical education as cheaply as possible, as well as to help meet, in a very small part, the running expenses of the gymnasium, the directorate have decided to lower the annual fee to the small sum of \$4 inclusive of locker. This fee includes all the privileges of the building, a thorough training by a competent English army instructor, use of the most complete apparatus in Canada, fencing, boxing, bowling (a very small retaining fee is imposed) quoits, a splendid running track; besides locker rooms, plunge, standing and shower baths, and many other facilities.

VARSITY GLEE CLUB.

The first meeting of the Club will be held this afternoon (Wednesday), at four o'clock, in the Assembly Hall of the Gymnasium building, for the purpose of testing the voices of those desiring to become members. This test is necessary, in order to determine the position which each member shall occupy in the Club.

All undergraduates, graduates and members of the Faculty of Toronto University and the S.P.S. are eligible for membership.

The next regular meeting will be held on Friday, at 4 p.m.

The annual concert will be given in Massey Music Hall on Friday evening, December 13, 1895. The annual tour (in conjunction with the Banjo and Guitar and Mandolin Clubs) is now being arranged.

During the season of 1894-5, the clubs visited the following cities and towns in the order named:—Brantford, Woodstock, London, St. Mary's, Stratford, Oshawa, Ottawa and Montreal.

They were handsomely entertained at each of the places visited, to say nothing of the enjoyable time spent en route in two special cars.

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CORRIDOR CULLINGS.

Andy Morrison, '97, has gone to Queen's.

H. W. Foley, '96, is attending Port Hope Model School.

Mr. C. P. Megan, B.A., '95, is at present city editor of the *Stratford Beacon*.

R. D. Coutts, B.A., '94, has the classical mastership of Harriston High School.

Mr. J. O. Quantz, B.A., '94, has secured a position as lecturer in Madison, Wis.

W. H. Greenwood, '97, has accepted a position as principal of Whitby Public School.

Mr. Jas. A. Tucker, '95, late editor of VARSITY, is attending Leland Stanford University.

Mr. R. W. Dickie, B.A., '94, has returned to Knox College after a year spent at Edinburgh University.

Mr. P. Scott, who has been a missionary in British Columbia during the past year, has returned to take his final year in arts.

Mr. J. E. Allison, '96, who was compelled to give up his year, last spring, will return at New Year's to continue his third year work.

C. Brack, '96, has gone to the School of Pedagogy this term; Mr. Brack will also spend a portion of his time as assistant in the library.

Mr. Peter Walker, '96, who took his second year in Varsity was around on Wednesday and Thursday. He was on his way to take his final year in McGill.

J. W. Baird, '97, who intended continuing his studies in Germany, has been very ill with typhoid. We are pleased to say that he is now rapidly recovering.

Students will please patronize those who patronize us. Give our advertisers your custom, and tell them you saw their "ad" in VARSITY. One good turn deserves another.

Dr. W. J. Erdman, of Philadelphia, will address the first regular meeting of the Y.M.C.A. in their hall, on Thursday next, at 5 p.m. Subject: "The Bible and its Study." All students invited.

W. S. Crysler, B.A., '95, has become publisher and editor of the *Delhi Intelligencer*. The effect of Mr. Crysler's university training was shown in his first editorial, in which he strove to mould public opinion with regard to the troubles of Varsity.

We regret to announce that Mr. J. L. Murray, B.A., the genial secretary of the Y.M.C.A., has been taken from his work by illness. The officers of the Association have arranged, however, for carrying on the work as usual. The first meeting on Thursday at five o'clock will be addressed by Dr. Erdman, of Philadelphia, and able

speakers are being secured for following meetings. Owing to the Secretary's illness, which we hope may be very brief, fuller announcement of the Association work for the incoming year cannot be given this week, but will appear in our next issue.

A NEW BOOK ON PHYSICS.

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. have just issued a Laboratory Manual of Experimental Physics, for the use of students and teachers. It is the joint production of Mr. W. J. Loudon, Demonstrator in Physics in the University, and Mr. J. C. McLennan, Assistant Demonstrator; and it is intended as a text-book for those who are taking a practical course in the physical laboratory.

It covers all the ground of an elementary course, and at the same time contains a full treatment of the more advanced experiments in sound, heat, electricity and magnetism.

As the book is copiously illustrated from original drawings by the authors, and as great care and a vast amount of time have been spent upon the arrangement and methods, it will be found to be an invaluable aid to those working in a laboratory or to any one desirous of becoming acquainted with experimental methods.

Copies may be obtained from Copp, Clark & Co., or from any of the book-sellers.



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