

VOL. I.

NO. 1.

◀ ASTRUM & ALBERTI. ▶

BELLEVILLE,

CANADA.



JANUARY, 1883.

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ASTRUM ♦ ALBERTI. ♦

VOL. I.

BELLEVILLE, JANUARY, 1883.

No. 1.

Astrum Alberti.

Published in TEN NUMBERS during the Academic Year, in the interests of the STUDENTS of Albert College.

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Exchanges should be addressed to the Managing Editor.

ASTRUM ALBERTI! Is it a new discovery? Did the late *transit* disclose another among the familiar faces in the planetary world? If so you will doubtless be happy to form an acquaintance with the youngest of this large and most respectable family. The College Telescope has certainly done good service to the cause of Science in the contribution thus made, and the future will have reason to rejoice because of the discovery and appearance of "Albert's Star."

But what a mistake is here! A translation may affront the gentlemen, and if left in rugged Latin, the ladies may think our airs altogether too scholarly. The deed is done, however; we must abide the issue.

It is proposed to make of the new discovery a Star of the first magnitude. We shall not on this point disguise our intentions, in order to take our readers afterwards by surprise. We warn you at once that you may be prepared for what is to follow. If our Monthly Bulletin of Science, Philosophy, Theology, History, and Humor prove too severe a strain upon our patrons, we expect to be apprized of the fact by the paper being returned, and marked, "not called for." We need no fur-

ther explanation. We understand what it means. It is but a quiet way of stating that another of our subscribers has "shuffled off this mortal coil."

Our next issue will certainly be expected to contain an obituary setting forth all facts and inferences "collected on the spot by our own reporter." No surer road to fame and knowledge can be found than to become a subscriber. If you do this you secure the former by a deserving tribute to your memory in the columns of our paper. If you live and read our monthly budget nothing can prevent you from possessing the latter, provided the mental strain is not too severe; if such, however, should be the case government has already provided for you.

If anything should appear in the columns of our paper calculated to give offence, we beg to say that it was *not* calculated to give offence. We do not calculate to do anything of the kind. We shall do our best to please and instruct, and "Grip" could not promise any better. Just here we wish to state once for all that all mistakes of every kind and character will be put to the credit of the junior hand in the job office. You doubtless know his name. We feel compelled to take this course in justice to ourselves, and as a matter of injustice to him.

We have made arrangements with the proper authorities, and "our own reporter" is to have free access *incoq.* to all parts of the College premises, so that full and trustworthy accounts of the great world inside College walls will be conveyed to the few who have the misfortune to dwell outside thereof.

"To be, or not to be," is not the question. We *are*, and expect to remain so. If there are any sceptical Shakespeares among our readers, we beg to say that our future is already secured. You can simply add to the joy of that existence, but not to the existence itself.

We have on our editorial staff a poet whose duty it is to redress all grievances coming from any and every quarter. We mention this by way of caution, so that

"If any old lady, knight, priest, or physician,
Should condemn us for printing a second edition,
If good Madam Squintum our work should abuse,
He will venture to give her a smack of his muse."

WE call the attention of the Students to our advertising columns, and request that they deal with the merchants represented there as far as it is practicable. It is no more than just that we should patronize those who favor us. In soliciting advertisements the committee promised those advertising our support, and we trust that the Students will fulfil the committee's promise.

THIS first issue of the ASTRUM ALBERTI is mailed to all the Graduates and Undergraduates of the University whose address can be learned, and also to a number of old Students and Friends of the College. It would require more time than is at our disposal to write each a note personally, soliciting subscription, but if the amount of subscription is sent to the secretary, Mr. J. T. Lillie, he will acknowledge the receipt of it, and enter your name on the list. There will be six issues published during the remainder of the session, the subscription for which is fifty cents.

NOW that the Christmas holidays are past, and the excitement and jollity of the return are to a great extent over, the students seem to have settled down to a hard term's work. All have apparently enjoyed a good time, and vie with each other in telling huge stories of roast goose and plum pudding. No one enjoys a good meal, or can do it better justice, than a college student, as doubtless our friends and parents can testify. But these things are over, and we must adapt ourselves to our situation. The term opens with a greatly increased attendance, especially in the Grammar School and Commercial departments. With many of the new students, this is the first time that they have packed their little trunk and struck out from home and mother. We occasionally hear a voice that has not yet learned the beauties of "Old Grimes," chanting "Home, Sweet Home," keeping time with a doleful step in the halls. We know how to sympathize, for we were there once ourselves.

WE read with lively interest the proceedings of the late session of the Methodist Union Committee, and that of the M. E. Church at Napanee, and were pleased to notice that the various questions propounded were discussed and settled so amicably. If Union is soon to be consummated, as seems very probable at present, we are led to enquire into its effect upon the Educational Institutions. We have only one Methodist sister in the west, the University of Victoria College, and whether these shall continue to have a separate existence, or be amalgamated into one University, are questions that are meeting with various solutions. We see no solution of the problem by the legislative bodies of the Churches, and presume that this matter is left for the first General Conference of the united Church, in case of union. Their near geographical position will be the principal difficulty in maintaining their separate existence, and it has been proposed to consolidate the two and remove them to some city in the western part of the Province. This would undoubtedly meet with very serious objections from both Cobourg and Belleville, and would, we think, be a matter of injustice to them.

We avow no antagonism to the Union movement, and cherish the highest respect and most cordial good-feeling toward our sister University, whose charter is the oldest in the Province, nor do we suppose that consolidation would lessen the honor of our graduates, but we feel justified in maintaining that it would be to the advantage of the educational work of the Church to preserve both of them singly, if practicable.

Our Institution has struggled under many embarrassments in the past quarter of a century, and its sustenance has required much sacrifice from ministry and laity, and, standing in the present brighter light, we recount with pleasure the many triumphs of the past, and confidently look forward to a successful future, and are not yet quite prepared to surrender our individuality. While we anxiously await the issue, we feel confident that our interests will be most sacredly guarded.

WE regret to announce the serious illness of Miss Baker, Preceptress of Alexandra College. At last accounts she was recovering, and expects soon to be able to attend to her duties in the College.

— o —

THE STUDY OF THE LAW.

THE word "Law" is a monosyllable pregnant with significance, which ought to be distinctly present to the mind of every one called upon to comprehend it.

The Law is that by which Civil Society is "compactly built together" and sustained in existence, overpowering the many elements of our fallen nature, with heaven-born energy converting the savage into the citizen, making the wilderness to bloom and blossom as the rose, redolent of the balmy air of peace and order, and surrounding its confines with impregnable bulwarks against brute force and arbitrary will. These results are worked out by a complicated and artificial system of jurisprudence, and it is to the study of this noble and wondrous system that we wish to draw your attention, and more particularly the attention of the students who intend joining the plethoric ranks of the legal profession.

The principles of the Law are "that we should live reputably;" "should hurt nobody;" and "render to every one his dues." To an un instructed or careless person the whole legal system appears "a mighty maze without a plan," and it is to the unravelling of this seemingly unsightly conglomeration of arbitrary rules, and their reduction to these three simple principles, that the student has to devote his life's energies. What steps are marked out as necessary for those who wish to pursue the study, are found by a perusal of the works of venerated and learned authorities. In these he will learn of the growth and nature of Law; here he finds that all human laws depend and are founded upon the laws of Nature and Revelation; that Revealed Law is of infinitely more authenticity than the moral system framed by ethical writers and called Natural Law; and, making this the starting point, he can trace the origin of Municipal Law, the study of which he may make a life's work. He finds in his examination that man was formed for society, and is not capable of living alone; and how in early times, from one great society, they separated and formed many states and nations, having commercial inter-

course, which were controlled by laws naturally springing up, and known as the "Law of Nations." Blackstone informs us that "municipal law is a rule of civil conduct prescribed by the Supreme Power in the State." The student is led to examine into the meaning of this definition, and this enquiry brings him to, and entangles him in, the very midst of the legal problems and studies of the present.

He soon becomes familiar with tort and contract, equity and Common Law, and all other divisions of national law. This, with the practice accompanying it, is the province of the student-at-law.

The principles are as old as the time of the primitive Britons, and as mixed as the English language. It has been truly said, "As our language is so much richer our laws are the more complete." But years of study and application must be his who would delineate truly the changes noting the different periods, with the Romans, Picts, Danes and Normans—from the issue of Liber Judicialis of Alfred to the Judicature Act of 1881. The intellectual powers of the student are exercised to their greatest tension as he follows the development from the primary division of *lex scripta* or *lex non scripta*, and in pondering over the movements and evidences of our legal customs as contained in an infinite number of records and books of reports. Those who are outside the ranks are puzzled at the success of pettifoggers noted for their ignorance and trickery. Similar frauds are found in every profession and business; but a man is all the more despicable, if, in this noble profession, he degrades himself to a veritable thief, by taking advantage of the sacred privileges of the profession to gain improper emoluments. Here study is essential to success. To successfully encounter such men, one must be armed with legal knowledge, linked with honesty of purpose.

I have taken full advantage of the space allotted to me in this, the first issue of the ASTRUM, which has the best wishes of all ever connected with the College.

— J. A. F.

— o —

A farmer who had some cider to sell was pricing teas and found that they had risen several cents a pound. "What's made tea riz?" said he. "Scarcity of tea-chests," said the merchant. However, he agreed to take some, to be paid for in cider. "How much's your cider?" asked the merchant. "Twenty cents." "Twenty cents!" cried the merchant; "what are you asking such a price as that for?" "'Cause bungholes is scarce," replied the farmer.—*Ex.*

Contributed.

LONGFELLOWS "HIAWATHA."

EVER since the landing of the first pioneers of American civilization at Plymouth Rock, our literature has been flooded with Indian tales, from the yellow-covered "dime novel," which fills the school-boy's mind with "horror and amaze," to the finest creations of the genius of J. Fenimore Cooper.

But it remained for the late "Poet Laureate" of America, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, to tell stories

"From the forests and the prairies,
From the mountains, moors and fenlands,"

in a form to be read with pleasure, even in the student's den and the lady's boudoir.

The hero, Hiawatha, from his miraculous birth among the flowers, accompanied by all the fiction of heathen superstition, to his departure

"To the portals of the Sunset,
To the region of the homeward,"

in search of our Saviour, is a proof of the beautiful imagination of the author.

Clustered around him we find many pleasing characters—as "Minnehaha," who presents at first a perfect example of an innocent, coy maiden, and afterward of a true and good wife.

In "Nokomis," who spoils the childhood and guards the manhood of Hiawatha as only a grandmother can, many of us find a picture of our own home life. Hiawatha's two friends,

"Chibiabos, the musician,
And the very strong man, Kwasind,"

present to us the rare picture of true, manly friendship. But when we consider the supernatural enemies with whom our hero had to cope, we feel as if we had culled a page from the "Arabian Nights."

In its grandly rolling lines, every one can find something to interest him. The student in philology is interested in the Indian nomenclature, and the origin and cause of picture writing; the archaeologist, in the curious romance of the "peace-pipe;" the humanitarian, in the benevolent character of Hiawatha; the lover, in his successful wooing; and the christian in his final conversion.

Critics have condemned, in no mild terms, the odd and certainly original versification. That it is a departure from all established poetical canons, and orthodox blank verse we cannot deny, but

that there is something in its musical rhythm and natural scansion, in its sonorous thunders and its rippling whispers, that thrills our every sense, all must acknowledge. The very rustling of the trees, the rippling of the streams, and the singing of the birds, are stereotyped in the quaint lines. We feel ourselves standing anxiously at the side of Hiawatha during his contest with the slayer of his mother, and as the critical moment approaches, we feel that *our* muscles are knit, and *our* nerves are strung for a mighty effort. We follow him through forests, over waters, and down precipices in his breathless pursuit of Yemadizze, and we stand with him, in his loneliness, watching by the snow-covered grave of his wife.

From first to last, we feel ourselves, not as spectators of a well acted drama, but as partakers in real life; and when joining hands with the characters of the story, we unite in the chorus of "Farewells" to Hiawatha, and feel as though a friend had left us for

"The Islands of the Blessed,
The kingdom of Ponemah,
The land of the Hereafter."

—A. R. C.

PENMANSHIP.

THIS branch of education has during past years been discussed and improved by our most eminent penmen, yet it seems as boundless and inexhaustible as the works of nature. In proportion to the amount of study, practice, and earnest research bestowed, will you reap its mysteries and multiplied beauties. It is both a science and an art, requiring years of intelligent and persistent study combined with practice, to become its master. You may have free access to the most accurately printed forms, or the more beautiful copies from the pen; yet it will prove a decided failure on your part should you receive no instruction on one of the most essential points, "movement," and this can only be imparted by an experienced and proficient teacher, who has the golden key which unlocks the secret workings of the arm and hand, and even then it requires a determined will to continue to the end. In the short experience of the writer, failure has followed the best efforts when the pupil under instruction has underrated movement, and would say when advised or shown how, "Oh! you are a natural penman; it is impossible for me ever to do that." This is one of the greatest stumbling blocks of the day to good writers; but it seems as though the

day is not far distant when this inconsistent idea shall be banished, and in its place shall be found the motto, "Study combined with practice gives grace, perfection and ease."

—J. B. MCKAY.

Correspondence.

THE MUSEUM.

WE are pleased to be able to state that the College Museum gives every prospect of assuming larger and better proportions. The Murchison Club and the College authorities have united in the effort to secure a large and complete museum, to be located at the College. Rooms have already been set apart, and are being fitted up for that purpose. The members of the Club are quite enthusiastic in the movement, and among them are many men of influence in the city, who have not in the past exhibited any special interest in College matters.

We are confident, from present outlook, that before a year rolls round we shall be in possession of a museum that will be a credit to us as a University, and of very great service in the department of Natural Science. A number of friends have already made valuable contributions. Mr. Smith, of the city, gives a collection of fossils and shells; Dr. James gives a collection in archaeology. These simply await the fitting up of the rooms to be deposited in the museum. There are a number of others who have made less pretensions gifts, but in some respects equally valuable.

The Rev. F. Chisholm has intimated his intention of giving a collection of fossils, a few of the specimens of which are already in the museum, and if those that are to follow are in any way equal to those already to hand, this collection will be among the most valuable yet received. The museum at present contains many things of interest and value. Besides collections of fossils, shells, etc., there is a set of Ward's casts, and quite a complete collection of minerals, many of the specimens being rare and beautiful.

We do not therefore start in this enterprise *de novo*, but through the liberality and contributions of a few friends we have what will make a very nice nucleus for a large and complete museum. Circumstances seem shaping to make this our golden opportunity in this matter, and as far as we are personally concerned, the opportunity will be improved. We solicit subscriptions from all the friends of the Church and College.

Surely there is no other similar institution in the Church, or out of it, that can lay better claim to your sympathy and support. A museum in connection with a University is not a thing simply of interest, pleasing to the sight, but is of inestimable value in teaching the several branches of Natural Science. We hope that none will hesitate to contribute for fear that the gift will not be valued. You cannot err on that side, as many of the things thought by

others to be valueless, are to us, in the light of the sciences, considered of very great value. If the contribution be of historic interest, kindly give the history, as everything in the museum is properly labelled, giving the name of donor.

We shall be delighted to show any of our friends through the Museum whenever they may call on us at the College, and in the meantime we await your contribution.

—W. P. DYER.

Poetry.

COLLEGE PRIMER.

- A is for Austin, a lover of gum ;
- B is for Beech, at drill very dumb ;
- C is for Carman, who boasts not a bit ;
- D is for Donoghue, poet and wit ;
- E is for Ernest, who plays on the fiddle ;
- F is for Forin, whose life is a riddle ;
- G is for George, who gets letters from Jane ;
- H is for Holgate, who takes the east train ;
- I is for Ira, who feeds us hash pies ;
- J is for James, who as pugilist vies ;
- K is for Kennedy, sober and grave ;
- L is for Lillie, a soldier boy brave ;
- M is for Massey, the mathematician ;
- N is for (Knight, the young politician ;
- O is for Osborne, who tobacco does eat ;
- P is for Packham, who travels Church street ;
- Q for McQ., who is coming to grief ;
- R is for Rufus, very fond of good beef ;
- S is for Street, who blooms like a Rose ;
- T for Tot Williams, with very long toes ;
- U for Ulysses, of ancient renown ;
- V— is for Metzler, from Napance town ;
- W for Winter, whose love has grown cold ;
- X is for Xenophon, a warrior of old ;
- Y is for Yates, quite uncultivated ;
- Z is like Paley, very hard to mate.

A SENIORIC ODE.

My pony, 'tis of thee,
 Emblem of liberty,
 To thee I sing.
 Book of my Freshman days,
 Worthy of fondest praise,
 Worthy of poets' lays,
 I'd tribute bring.
 My gallant pony, thee,
 Help to the wearied be,
 When "Ex." is nigh.
 I love thy well worn look,
 Thou gentle little book,
 Down in some hidden nook
 Silently lie.

College Societies.

COLLEGE JOURNAL PUBLISHING COMPANY.

THE ASTRUM ALBERTI is published by a Company, formed for that purpose from the students of Albert College. It has a capital stock of \$250, and assumes the financial responsibility of the Journal. The business of the Company is conducted by a Board of Management elected from among the shareholders, at the annual meeting of the Company. The following is the Board for the year 1883:—

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The Historical Society is an important factor of this Institution. It is composed of Graduates and Under graduates of Albert University, and meets in the College Chapel on Saturday night of each week for discussions upon literary and scientific subjects. Being conducted on parliamentary principles, it provides ample means for the development of the debating capabilities of its members, and gives them a thorough knowledge of business forms and customs. The Executive Council is at present composed of A. R. Carman, Chairman of Committees and President of the Council; N. Sharpe, Financial Secretary; and J. E. Connor, Corresponding Secretary; and being supported by a large majority of the members, they conduct the business of the Society according to their own wishes, notwithstanding the arguments and protests of the Opposition. At a late meeting of the Society, Professor Dyer was elected President to succeed S. B. Burdett, L.L.D., whose term of office expires on the 15th of February next.

PHILOMATHIAN SOCIETY.

The Literary Society of the Grammar School is in a very flourishing condition. It meets regularly in the College Chapel on Friday night, and is well attended. A programme of recitations and readings is furnished by the different sections in turn, and is usually well rendered. The most interesting part of the meeting is the debate, when very weighty arguments are used to convince the worthy judges of the ways of wisdom and truth. The officers for the Hilary term are: Governor—A. W. Bannister, B.A.; President—W. H. Metzler; Secretary—W. D. Ferguson; Treasurer—N. L. Massey.

ARGYLES.

At the beginning of the present term a volunteer company was formed from the students in connection with the 15th Battalion Argyle Light Infantry. Company drill was immediately commenced under the direction of Adjutant Ponton, and the men took a deep interest in their work, so that they have become quite efficient, and have won the admiration of the citizens by the soldierly bearing which characterized their several parades. Col. Villiers informally inspected the Company, and expressed his satisfaction with their efficiency. Captain Walmsley has the entire respect of the men. Much praise is due Adj. Ponton for the interest he has taken in the Company.

Y. M. C. A.

This Association, which was organized during Michaelmas Term, 1879, is a branch of the International Young Men's Christian Association. It has for its object the development of the christian character and higher religious life of our students. Aggressive in its movements, it has proved a polished instrument in leading our young men in the better way, in strengthening the weak, and profiting all. Hilary Term has opened under most favorable auspices, and already good is being done. The officers for the present year are: W. C. Austin, President; C. H. Winters, Secretary; T. F. Holgate, Cor. Secretary.

NOTES.

"*Fortnighten perdid!*," said a Freshman on his return after the holidays.

Is there such a nation as the Slabs?

Conundrum—What's a bazaar? A place where lady students go to inspect the finery, and have to pay ten cents to get out.

Professor—"When was Christ born?" S.—"14 A.D."

One of the boys who took observations of the transit of Venus through a piece of smoked glass, says the planet, when crossing the disc of the Sun, looked like a mole on a fair maiden's face.

Paley says he had fun during the vacation.

1st Freshman—"Fine day for the race! eh, Jack?" 2nd Freshman—"What race?" 1st Freshman—"Human race, of course."

"Eyes front," said a lady to one of our soldier boys while on parade, who had set his eyes intently upon her.

It is all right now, eh, Jim? I told you it was periodical, so don't be surprised if it happens again. But what about the oysters?

Cows are allowed to remain on the College grounds to prevent new students from getting homesick.

"Mr. Speaker, it affords me much opportunity—" is the way a Freshman broke forth on his maiden speech in the Historical Society.

Who dares say that they do not understand the causes and results of the transit of Venus, after the elaborate exposition of paralaxes, refraction, aberration, &c., that we received at prayers a few mornings since.

Bertie comes over without his little milk pitcher now.

A motto for young lovers, "So-fa and no father."

Hey diddle daddle, the press and the twaddle,
The copy jumped into the fuss;
The college boys laughed to see the fun,
And the joke ended up in a muss.

The above appeared in the *Queen's College Journal*, and expresses our last effort admirably.

An Undergraduate has been teaching the Preceptress' classes during her illness. One morning he received the following note signed by four ladies:

"Mr. L—, Us girls want to jine the spelin clas if you woud be so kind to tel us when the spelin clas meats."

Undoubtedly they feel the necessity of orthographical training.

Professor, in Earle—"Plural of fox?" Freshman—"Foxen, no, vixen."

Our soldier boys have been furnished with new helmets and overcoats. They look real nobby.

Dr. B— "How does that strike you, Mr. C—ll?"
Mr. C—ll—"It doesn't strike me at all."

C—ke, beware! you know the fate of the last belt man. He is getting bald already. The married state does not appear to agree with him.

A gentleman, who is somewhat absent minded, lost his hat a few days ago and offered a reward for its recovery. The following has been received for publication:

Found—In the Reception Room of Alexandra College, a black felt hat, high crown, slightly the worse for wear. Will be delivered to owner on receipt of reward offered.

ITEMS.

A Vassar College lady reads the prayer response: "As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without men. Ah, me!"

MATRICULANT'S DIARY:—

June 21st—Conditioned.
June-July—Loafed.
August—Ditto.
September—Loafed till the 8th.
September 8th—Plucked again.
September 9th—Father took the dust off my clothes.

He was sitting in the parlor with her, when a rooster crowed in the yard. Leaning over, he suggested, "Chanticleer." "I wish you would," she replied; "I'm as sleepy as I can be." He cleared.—*Ee.*

Opera—Billie Taylor;
Last week, Friday night.
She full dress with lilies,
Opera-cloak of white.

Only met on Tuesday,
Impudence ungraced.
Tries to put, however,
Arm around her waist.

Heavens! how she shuddered,
Shivered like a saint,
Whiter than her lilies,
Seemed to want to faint.

He began to stammer,
Not a word would come;
She, "Sir, oh, how dare you!"
Wait till coming home."

PERSONALS.

W. V. Pettet is in Winnipeg speculating. Too cold for pump socials.

M. H. Davis, B.A., is Principal of a Commercial College in Toledo, with M. I. Magill, B.A., as Assistant, and Tutor of Modern Languages.

E. Stone Wiggins, Graduate of '70, is in the Financia' Department, Ottawa, and is distinguishing himself as an astronomer. He predicts a terrific storm for the 9th of March. Hear ye the words of Ezekiel!

J. A. Carman, of '72, is Principal of Kemptville High School, where he is doing an excellent work.

We are pleased to learn that S. B. Burdett, LL.D., of this city, and A. L. Morden, of Napanee, have been appointed to the Board of Management of Albert College.

J. Z. Wild paid Old Albert a visit during vacation, and left his inscription on the walls along with "the happy six."

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