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# THE VARSITY

*A Weekly Journal of Literature, University Thought and Events.*

VOL. X.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, DECEMBER 9, 1890.

No. 10.

## Editorial Comments.



NEXT Friday evening the motion of Mr. Robinson to change the time of the annual elections of the Literary and Scientific Society from the Easter to the Michaelmas term will come up for discussion. This is a question that merits the thoughtful consideration of every one interested in the welfare of the society. The

change proposed is of such importance that any decision, pro or con, should not be given without due thought of the consequences that may arise from the action taken.

It is claimed by the supporters of the motion that under the system proposed a healthier, if not a greater, interest in the society and the elections would be aroused; that there would be no break up of work just before exams., as at present; that the medical members could be more easily induced to come out and vote, and that thereby their active co-operation in the work of the society would be more generally obtained; and, further, that the individual members would, to a much larger extent than at present, pay their own fees, and that in this way the prevailing corruption—which word is an entire misstatement of what actually does exist—would be avoided.

While denying that the innovation is the panacea it is claimed to be, its opponents urge that the relaxation from work preparatory to the April "cram" which is now afforded by a week's election campaign is rather to be desired than not, and that in the Michaelmas term, when the athletic contests are in full swing, when the smaller societies are occupying the attention of all classes in college, and when the men are only partially acquainted with one another, the elections would degenerate into a very tame affair, with none of the exhilarating excitement now attendant thereon. But more especially it is urged that the proposed change would seriously interfere with the working of the society, an objection which seems to be well taken, and one of the strongest reasons for the rejection of the motion.

Consideration will clearly demonstrate how this interference will arise, and how injuriously effective it may be. If the elections are held in October the society could not get into good working order until the officers were elected, which means that a month or six weeks of the best time in the year will be lost; if in December, there would be two difficulties to encounter. At present, four officers—the First Vice-President, the Curator, the Recording Secretary and one Councillor—are fourth year men. If Seniors continue to be elected to these positions, they must necessarily be vacant during the following Michaelmas term; if, on the contrary, a wholesale change is made in the constitution to allow third men to fill them, the helpful experience of the fourth year men will be entirely lost, and a third year man will receive the highest office in the gift of the undergraduates, while the fourth year men are still five months from gradu-

ation. The adoption of either end of the dilemma could not but have a detrimental effect on the welfare of the society. Whether the benefits to be derived from the change could compensate for the evils that, as has been shown, will follow in its wake, remains to be seen. It is plain that the objections pointed out are very substantial and very difficult to overcome in theory, not to speak of practice. THE VARSITY, as the representative of the whole body of students, takes no side, but merely wishes to point out the advantages and disadvantages of the question at issue. We trust our readers will fully consider the question in all its aspects, and be prepared intelligently to discuss and decide the matter on Friday night.

This year, perhaps, more than ever before, there has appeared around our College a disregard for the rights of others, the presence and increase of which cannot but be regretted by all. The reason of this may be difficult to say, but the fact remains. Instances of this spirit of carelessness and looseness are very common, and can be seen almost every day. Two or three very glaring ones have been brought to our notice. The December number of *Harper's Magazine* has been so carelessly handled by some persons that it has been necessary to remove it from the files in order to prevent its entire mutilation. The other day somebody had the audacity to make a clipping from one of the daily papers when it had been on the files not more than an hour. Such actions as these are almost unparalleled in the history of the College, and were the offenders known the Literary Society would be asked to deprive them of the rights of the reading-room, of which they have proved themselves so utterly unworthy.

Not long since the ladies of '91 were so seriously disturbed by the noise made by some unthinking students, thoughtless of both their own and others' rights, that they were obliged to adjourn their meeting. An apology to the ladies is certainly due from the gentlemen who acted in this manner. These are but a few examples of almost every-day occurrences, the flagrancy of which, when considered by each student, must appear in glaring colors. A little thought of what one owes to one's self-respect and one's fellow-students, should most thoroughly prevent the recurrence of such violations of the principles that should govern gentlemen and, above all, students.

The Business Manager desires to intimate that all subscriptions to THE VARSITY are due before the Christmas vacation. His duties will be greatly lessened if those who are in arrears will attend to this matter at once. The management of THE VARSITY are to be congratulated on the almost entire unanimity with which the students paid their subscriptions in advance, nearly three-quarters of the whole number having done so. If those who have hitherto neglected this will kindly accept this intimation the manager will be able to put his books in good order before the holidays.

## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE (1890).

Night was hov'ring like the shadow  
Of God's mighty outstretched hand,  
Drawn across the western heavens  
Lingered still one long red band.

To my window distant music  
Came in undulating swells,  
While the tired city, pausing,  
Heard the sweet cathedral bells.

And beyond the swaying poplars  
I beheld her towers rise  
With their sombre broken outline,  
Lifted to the silent skies.

Still confusion hath a dwelling  
In the courts where it is meet,  
Loveliness alone inhabit  
Not the spirit incomplete.

But now strength is ever added  
And her shattered walls shall grow  
Till erect in her full stature  
Glorious and pure she show.

And she seemed, O fellow-students,  
Emblematic of the soul,  
Whose unfinished broken outline,  
We must render fair and whole.

As her stone-work, fraught with beauty,  
Moulded so our lives must be,  
Till we too attain perfection  
And unsullied harmony.

EVELYN DURAND.

## THE PHILOSOPHY OF LOVE.

*(Translated from the German of Immerschnaps.)*

[Eroticos, being deeply in love, calls one evening upon  
Logicus to solicit his opinion.]

*Logicus*: So, then, Eroticos, you tell me you—

*Eroticos*: In truth I am, and it is in respect to that very matter that I have called upon you.

*Log.*: Let us examine a little the nature of this peculiar mental phase in which you stand; or, rather, let us consider the probable duration of this condition, for thereby will we be enabled to arrive at a just decision in regard to its nature.

*Erot.*: In respect to its duration, there seems to be but little doubt; for such is the nature of love that I feel constancy to be its first attribute, and a requisite essential of its being. If a man be truly in love, it stands to reason, according to the universally accepted idea of this passion, that it must be constant. If it be not so, the man is under a delusion, and is not possessed by real love.

*Log.*: Let us examine. We will suppose that A is in love with B and B with A. Now, to say that A's love to B is constant, means that A will always hold B higher in his affections than any other individual, as C, D, E, etc. Had A never met with B what would have happened? Unless we suppose that B is in every case the only person of all the universe of beings, actual or potential, whom A could have loved (a supposition that human experience shows to be false)—unless this, we must conclude that A would have, or at least could conceivably have, fallen in love with some other individual as C. Similarly, had A never met B or C, he could conceivably have fallen in love with D. Or B, C, and E, all being unknown to him, he could conceivably have fallen in love with E, and so further. Do you follow me clearly?

*Erot.*: I think so. We have thus far concluded that an individual A being given there are a number (greater or

less) of other individuals, B, C, D, E, etc., with each of whom, had he never met the others, he could have conceivably fallen in love.

*Log.*: Exactly. Now let us suppose that A meets them synchronously. Love being essentially a selective passion he cannot become enamoured of them all. Evidently his love must centre upon one of them, and it will fall upon the one most lovable. Now the words "most lovable" are, to speak algebraically, a variable quantity. That is, the selection depends upon A's own nature. There exists in the potential universe, on the analogy of Plato's horse, a being, from A's point of view, absolutely the most lovable. That is to say one who if brought into contact with A must call forth his love rather than any other. This being corresponds with A's ideal of the sum total of lovable qualities (the good, the beautiful, etc.). Now all the objects upon whom A's love could conceivably have centred, B, C, D, E, etc., approximate more or less to this absolute type. Let it be here understood that this absolute type is not necessarily perfect but is merely the exact embodiment of A's ideal. Should he meet B, C, D, etc., synchronously, he will fall in love with the nearest approximation to the absolute type. And this he does involuntarily and without any volition in selection; for it needs no proof that love is independent of the will.

Now let us suppose that B, C, D, etc., represent a graded order of ascending approximations to the potentially existent being absolutely the most lovable to A, and let it be further supposed that he meets them consecutively. What follows? Necessarily that he falls in love with each consecutively and will continue to do so, if we suppose the series indefinitely prolonged until he meets the absolute type. Let us designate this absolute type Z. Now to suppose that in every actual case B, the first met object, is the absolute of Z as regards A, and A similarly the solute type Z, as regards B, were manifestly absurd.

Nay, in view of the infinitely adjustment of details requisite to the correspondence of Z and Z<sub>1</sub>, such a coincidence will only happen in an infinitely small number of cases. To realize this, we must remember that A's ideal is composed of an enormous number of factors, a, b, c, x, y, z, and in like manner B's ideal Z<sub>1</sub> is composed of an enormous number of factors, a<sub>1</sub>, b<sub>1</sub>, c<sub>1</sub>, d<sub>1</sub>—x<sub>1</sub>, y<sub>1</sub>, z<sub>1</sub>. Only when these series coincide entirely will the totals coincide and the equation A = Z, B = Z be true.

Hence in nearly all actual cases B is not Z—this is, A is capable of loving each of a greater or less number of other individuals rather than [mark me, I do not say more than] B. And this he must do independently of his own will. Now it may happen that after being united with B, A meets with one of these other objects, C, D, etc., and B similarly, what conclusion must we draw?

*Erot.*: I can see no other than that, if two beings A and B are united in the bonds of love, in all cases, except the union of the ideal types Z and Z, it must happen that should the proper individuals present themselves, A becomes inconstant to B and B to A.

*Log.*: Exactly. And here let me forestall a possible argument. I do not mean by "become inconstant" to signify an open rupture or actual avowal of disunion. A may give no mark of love to the third individual C; he need not even confess it to himself; but the sentiment nevertheless must arise as involuntarily as did his prior love to B.

*Erot.*: It would seem to follow, then, that in almost every case of union between A and B, one or both must become virtually inconstant by harboring an at least unconfessed love towards C. But this we know is not the case in a large portion, I might almost say, in the majority of actual instances. Are we not, then, to infer that some step in your reasoning is fallacious?

*Log.*: Not that, but that your conclusion from my reasoning is fallacious. Such inconstancy will by no means occur in all cases. A may never meet C, D, or E, etc. For remember that meet must here connote an intercourse of sufficient duration to permit A to be well acquainted

with the nature of C, D, E, etc. Were our known life to extend to eternity, and were each individual to meet all others, such inconstancy would actually happen in every case [always with the sole exception of the union of Z and Z<sub>1</sub>]. But such not being the case, love is in a large portion of cases seemingly constant. Moreover, the race at large has unwittingly the truth of what I would prove by placing such restrictions upon the conduct of A and B after their union as to preclude the possibility of their becoming deeply conversant with the natures of many other beings of the series C, D, E. Yet the inevitable conclusion is that in all unions of A and B it only requires a proper set of circumstances and the possible inconsistency of each or both is developed. And further, A or B may meet C, or D or E, etc., five minutes after their union or five decades after or never in life and so become inconstant, and such a meeting may happen five times or fifty. But this being a pure matter of chance the case of a five minutes' duration implies no greater inconstancy than a case of a lifelong duration, but merely a different set of circumstances.

*Erot.*: This certainly seems most true. Yet there remains as constant love the union of the absolute types Z and Z<sub>1</sub>. Now it would seem to me that as every union of A and B may be potentially a union of Z and Z<sub>1</sub>, every man may claim that his love is constant, for he may be the exceptional Z.

*Log.*: Not so fast. This union of Z and Z<sub>1</sub> I have supposed only for argument's sake. All other unions being now disposed of, let us consider this one in which Z is supposed to be A's absolute ideal and Z<sub>1</sub> to be B's, and in which A and B are themselves assumed to be respectively Z<sub>1</sub> and Z.

Now to suppose that A or B could admit into his ideal of the lovable any factor of the bad is of itself impossible. And, take notice, I do not mean to say that A may not have conceived some actual being to be the ideal, whereas such a being really possess factors of the bad. He may do so, but in this case it is A's ignorance that is at fault. His ideal of the lovable remains the same, but this being is, unknown to him, not the true ideal.

The ideal Z contains, then, only factors of the good. *Igitur* Z is a perfect being and similarly Z<sub>1</sub> is a perfect being. Now you might object that it does not follow that A's conception of the perfect is not necessarily perfect. But a little reflection will suffice to show there is no real standard of perfection, and, consequently, A's perfect is as perfect as any other man's perfect. That is, A's perfect is perfect. Z and Z<sub>1</sub> are, then, necessarily perfect beings. But no perfect being exists. *Sequitur* no union of absolute ideals can exist. Any union of love between A and B must contain potential elements of inconstancy. Our conclusion stands, then, that though love may last with no inconstancy throughout a life time, yet it is impossible that any love should be essentially constant. Good night, *Eroticos*.

Good night, Logicus; your words are most true yet. Alackaday, I am none the less as much in love as when I came.

S. B. LEACOCK.

### SCHOOL OF SCIENCE.

The Engineering Society met on Tuesday last, December 2nd, with a very large attendance, comprising nearly all the engineers. The feature of the meeting was the paper on "underground waters, as a source of public supply," by Dr. P. H. Bryce, Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health. He gave a brief description of the general configuration of the Province from the standpoint of water supply, and described the different methods employed throughout the district for procuring an efficient supply. He brought forward arguments in favour of obtaining water from the underground sources, and showed how much better these waters were than the lake waters. In conclusion, a review was made of the trouble which is at present harassing Toronto, giving several methods by

which it might be overcome. The paper was much appreciated, as was manifested by the vote of thanks tendered the doctor, and the engineers are looking forward with pleasure when he will give the society another paper in the same line.

Last week, being the time of the annual dinner, the undergrads were favoured with visits from a number of graduates in engineering—some of whom have been away several years employed in engineering work. Among these might be mentioned Mr. A. R. English, '90, from Patterson, N. J.; Mr. F. M. Bowman, '90, who has been on surveys in the Rockies; Mr. G. R. Mickle, B.A., '88, who has been employed in mining work in Bohemia.

Considerable anxiety is felt concerning Mr. William Newman, '91, who is at present lying at the General Hospital, in a very critical stage of the prevalent typhoid fever.

### THE LIBRARY.

During the last month very great advances have been made in getting the library in order by the aid of a night staff in addition to that engaged during the day. All the cases have been unpacked and the greater portion of the books entered in the accession catalogue, so that now the story that we never have less than one hundred cases unpacked is a thing of the past.

The accession catalogues show that between 23,000 and 24,000 volumes have been entered, but with what remains to be sorted out the total may be placed at rather over 25,000. This is rather under the estimate of 100 volumes to a case, but is easily understood when seventeen cases yielded 125 volumes—a number less than other single cases of the same size contained. Still when one remembers that but a very small number of these were bought and the rest donations, no one has any right to complain.

It is expected that by the New Year that everything will be well in hand and that from that time on that the work will not again accumulate to any such extent as it has since September.

Shipments are still coming in. During this past week a case has been received from Victoria, Australia, and five are now on the way from Germany, so that the end is not yet. Many sets of periodicals are being packed up and stored in the basement for the present and in this way relieves the strain on the girders supporting the immense weight of books and at the same time, making room for works much more needed.

The ladies' reading room has been furnished and when once the doors are hung they should, so far as room is concerned, be better off than ever.

Since the dictionaries have been removed from the Y.M.C.A. to the library, much more reading has been done and reminds one not a little of the busy times in the old library.

The men's reading room will have more tables and chairs placed in it shortly and a counter will be arranged at the door of the delivery room. When these have been provided the only drawbacks to the library will be the tedious climb to it and the lack of a catalogue. The former cannot be remedied but it is hoped the latter may be before long.

Harvard won the Harvard-Yale foot-ball game this year for the first time since the modern game was introduced.

Princeton is to have a new hall for Commencement exercises, and other college ceremonies, which will cost at least \$150,000. The donor is Mrs. Chas. B. Alexander, of New York.

The faculty of Harvard have consented to allow the Glee and Banjo Clubs to make a tour during the Christmas vacation. The trip will include New York, Chicago, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Washington and Philadelphia.

# The Varsity

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BY

## THE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

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Anonymous contributions will be published if approved by the Editor. This does not include letters to the Editor.

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DECEMBER 9, 1890.

### THE LITERARY SOCIETY.



PRACTICALLY fifteen minutes late, the General Committee concluded its business on Friday night, and the meeting was then called to order by the President. It is needless to mention that at the opening there were but comparatively few of the members present; however, by the time the debate was opened, the assembly had assumed even large proportions than usual.

Before reading the minutes (on being called on for the minutes), Mr. Stringer hoped that the society would consider them carefully, as he had been unable to grasp the meaning of many of the amendments passed with a view to simplifying the constitution the week before. A great many of the members were equally obtuse, but we still have great confidence in the amendments.

Under the next order of business, Mr. G. H. Ferguson gave notice that at the next meeting of the society he would move that a grant of twenty-five dollars be made to the Sports Committee. Encouraged by his modest example and by the well-known liberality of the society, Mr. Hellems loomed up with a notice of a similar nature, viz., that an equal sum be granted to the Class of '93—the unassuming Freshmen of last year. A report from the joint committee, *re conversat*, produced some lively discussion. Mr. Watson wanted a likeness of the old conversat. He loved the old conversat, so did Mr. Perry. It was apparent also that they both loved the ladies, for they pleaded their presence at the old conversats as being the crowning glory of the occasion. Mr. Ferguson, fresh from the McGill dinner, advocated a similar festivity for his Alma Mater.

The society agreed with Mr. Ferguson, and instructed the committee to make arrangements for a dinner to take place during February if possible. This being settled the literary programme received the society's most serious consideration.

The first number was a song by the members of '92, which is equivalent to saying that the song was rendered most classically à la Schuch and the Glee Club. Mr. Graham then favored the society with a reading, which he delivered in a style that deserves the utmost praise. Mr. Brown followed with an essay on Macaulay, and dealt very learnedly with several interesting subjects, devoting more of his attention however to "Education through the Classics." The "*pièce de resistance*" (you will notice that we have a very vivid anticipation of the dinner to come next year) was the inter-year debate between '92 and '93. This is one of the innovations made by the present General Committee, and to judge from the result of Friday night's venture inter-year debates should henceforward be a well-known feature of the society's programme. It is open to question if we have at any meeting this term had as creditable a display of debating talent as on this occasion. The subject was: "Resolved,—That the world is advancing mentally, morally and spiritually."

For the affirmative, which was to be sustained by '92, Mr. Perrin opened the debate with a speech worthy of praise alike for its animated delivery, Demosthenic eloquence, and logical sequence. He was followed by Mr. Henry, the ex-orator of '93. Mr. Henry's speech was equally creditable to himself, and the meeting now began to get interested in the situation. Mr. Lamont was the next speaker for '92, and he unquestionably clinched some good points. Mr. Pettinger for '93 was full to the brim of "wise saws and modern instances," quoting most familiarly, as indeed did all the speakers, from every period of history since the flood of B.C. several thousand. For the third year Mr. Coombs then came forward, and being a classical student and of a metaphysical turn of mind, he wanted to discuss "morality in the abstract," "truth *per se*, etc." These five speakers used flowing language, but Mr. Clarke, the sixth, broke the record on the metaphorical question, referring with touching "naïveté" to the years ago when he had sat upon the paternal doorstep, and from an old clay pipe had blown such gorgeously beautiful bubbles, which, alas, used to vanish at a touch. The leader of the affirmative closed the debate with a five minutes' speech in which, by means of Ciceronian eloquence and Fourth of July lung power, he attempted to demolish both his opponents and their, to him, futile arguments. After a brief summing up, the President, to the great elation of the Juniors and a corresponding depression on the part of the Sophomores, decided the debate in favour of the former.

At this stage of the proceedings about seven-eighths of the meeting made a frantic rush for the door, while the remaining few listened to a speech by Mr. Robinson in favour of holding the annual meeting in December. On motion of Mr. McLay the discussion was left over to the next meeting. Mr. Hellems then brought in his motion to omit the list of ordinary members from the next constitution. This motion was carried, and the meeting adjourned at 11.20 p.m.

Before closing this review of the night's proceedings we cannot refrain from uttering a few commendatory remarks. In one respect Friday night's meeting was unique in the annals of the society, for every speaker was in earnest and earnestness in a speaker is the first requisite for success. Whether a man be a preacher or a politician, a philanthropist or Varsity undergrad, he must believe in himself or he is a failure; he must be in earnest or he is nothing. This earnestness has in the past years been the very quality most conspicuously absent in the proceedings of the society. We have seen speakers appear before an audience—that if challenged would yield to none in the province in respect to critical capacity—who, in spite of

the fact that they had had two weeks in which to prepare a brief speech upon some simple, if not hackneyed, subject, have doled out to the Society, in a voice wanting both in animation and personality, a few trivial facts and a few inane remarks, laughable to listen to and of no consequence when said. To judge from the last meeting, this state of affairs is now a thing of the past. The speaking on Friday night was good, because there was a ring of truth in it. The speakers were listened to because the audience felt that they believed what they were saying. The same may be said in regard to the essayist, and more especially in regard to the reader of the evening. Mr. Graham deserves much credit for the manner in which he delivered his selection. It showed careful preparation and much thought, and it was apparent throughout that he had done his best to please the society. This is the spirit that we want around Varsity. Every man do his best. If he does so, his efforts will always be appreciated.

#### THE MEDS' BANQUET.

The fourth annual banquet of the Medical department of Toronto University was held on Thursday evening last at the Rossin House. To say it was a huge success would be expressing it mildly. Our dinners are always a huge success, but each succeeding dinner invariably contains some new element which adds to the general triumph.

The speeches this year differed from and improved on those of last year in the fact that they were short, and being therefore sweet, containing no poor material, and being delivered with such eloquence as is characteristic of orators. To the boys themselves the most interesting features of the evening were the addresses (all remarkably good) of the representatives from the different sister institutions. We have so many sympathies in common with these gentlemen that their speeches always find favor with us, and we cannot but listen with pleasure to them. Of course, the Chancellor made the speech of the evening (containing much which will trouble the digestion of some of our guests for some time to come); but we wish to make special reference to the speeches of S. B. Leacock and T. E. Bennett. These gentlemen covered themselves with glory, Mr. Leacock especially distinguishing himself, making what many considered the speech of the evening. It was certainly the wittiest, very cleverly constructed, and delivered in a most pleasing manner. Tommy Bennett may well be proud of himself. His speech, although coming on very late in the evening, was listened to with closest attention, as it well deserved to be, and called forth well earned applause. The graduating class are proud of Tommy.

Of the students in general it might be said that a more gentlemanly body never sat down together. If any of the gentlemen who seem to find a peculiar pleasure in abusing medical students were present last Thursday evening, they would have been thoroughly ashamed of themselves, and have concluded that they on one or more previous occasions had been suffering from a fit of temporary insanity, and that the rude epithets which they had so freely bestowed on others would have been more appropriately applied to themselves. A detailed description of the dinner will not be necessary, it being sufficient to note the chief events of the evening.

Mr. C. A. Webster occupied the chair, while R. H. Gowland and Thos. Coleman filled the vice-chairs, with becoming dignity. Surrounding the chairman were the various notables of the city, including Hon. E. Blake, Sir Daniel Wilson, Hon. J. W. Gibson, Dr. W. T. Aikins, Dr. Daniel Clark, Dr. H. H. Wright, Dr. Richardson, Dr. O'Reilly, and numerous others.

Mr. W. E. Crain, the secretary, read letters of regret from the Governor-General, the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir John Macdonald, Hon. Wilfred Laurier, Hon. O. Mowat, Hon. G. W. Ross, Vice-Chancellor Mulock, W. R. Meredith, Prof. Goldwin Smith, Mr. Justice Armour, Col. Gilmour and E. B. Osler.

The chairman, in a neat speech, welcomed the guests and complimented the students on the success of their banquet. The toast "Toronto University," evoked wild enthusiasm, and was replied to by the Hon. Edward Blake, in a brilliant oratorical effort. Speeches and toasts followed one another in rapid succession, all the speakers doing well and keeping the close attention of those present to the end.

Shortly after one a.m. the assembly broke up with "Auld Lang Syne," thus closing the most successful dinner the Meds of Toronto University ever held.

The following gentlemen represented the undergrads of sister universities and faculties: R. A. Bowie, McGill; R. J. Gardner, R. M. C., Kingston; R. E. Webster, Trinity Medical College; J. S. Johnston, the Law School; S. B. Leacock, The Varsity (Arts); H. Wilson, Western University, London; W. B. Richardson, Dental College; G. A. Robson, College of Pharmacy.

#### THE NATURAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

The Natural Science Association held its third regular meeting of the term on Tuesday afternoon last, in the School of Practical Science. Dr. Graham Chambers presided. In the absence of the secretary of committee, the report *re* the McMurrich medal was postponed. A. F. Rolls and R. F. McKay were nominated for the position of first year councillor, and F. B. Allan and A. F. Edwards for second year councillor. The election will take place at the next regular meeting.

Dr. Ellis then gave a very lucid description of the photographic camera. Dwelling at length on the obscure chemistry of photography, he explained the different stages of the process, which is based essentially on the sensibility to light of certain compounds, particularly the haloid salts of silver. When a film of one of these salts is exposed to light some change takes place, although it is not visible to the eye, because when placed in a reducing agent, under a non-actinic light, those parts are developed first upon which the most light fell. The nature of this change is not known, Dr. Ellis being of the opinion that it is a physical molecular change, and not a chemical one. The other great difficulty is the formula of the best developer. Dr. Ellis has come to the conclusion that the formula of the best theoretical developer would be  $C_6H_3(NH_4O)_3$ , and from examination he finds that the best manufactured approach more or less nearly to this, according to their quality.

Dr. Pike gave some very amusing illustrations of the importance to which photography has attained. The first knowledge of the art dates back to the year 1283, when it was noticed that some writing of silver nitrate on chalk had been blackened by exposure to light. In concluding, he showed the advantage the chemist had in the practice of photography.

#### CLASS OF '94 RECEPTION.

The first social evening of the class of '94 came off very successfully in the Y.M.C.A. Hall on Saturday evening. The President, Mr. J. H. Brown, delivered a carefully worded inaugural address which was listened to with much interest. The Glee Club, under the direction of the musical director, rendered several songs in a very pleasing manner. Miss Topping played and by request favoured the meeting with an *encore*. The class poet, Miss Durand, read a poem which was listened to with marked attention. Mr. G. W. Levy, the prophet, evoked much applause as he prophesied concerning the future of the class. The orator also delivered an oration in which several matters of interest to the class were treated in a very happy manner. Some time was spent in conversation and after this the members did justice to the refreshments provided. The meeting adjourned about eleven o'clock.

## PUBLIC DEBATE AT WYCLIFFE.

In response to the invitations of the Wycliffe College Literary Society to their public debates a large and enthusiastic audience filled to overflowing the spacious college library. The Hon. President of the Society, Mr. N. W. Hoyles, Q.C., occupied the chair, and by a few well-timed remarks introduced the Wycliffe College Choral Society, which rendered in a very acceptable manner that familiar chorus "The Soldier's Farewell," after which the "Trial Scene" in Shakespeare's *Henry the Eighth* was dramatically rendered by Messrs. Dreyer, Lea, Perry, McClean, Gould, Williams, Bryan and Marsh. Mr. Dryer made a capital "Henry VIII.," while Mr. Williams was every inch a "Bishop," and the difficult part of "Archbishop of Canterbury" was well taken by Mr. Lea. Mr. Perry's rendering of the "Lord Chancellor" was praise worthy. Then "Hail ye Heroes Home Returning" was sung by an octette chosen from the college students. The essay of C. D. Smith, B.A., entitled "Origin of Man's Intellectual Nature" was listened to with close attention.

Then followed the event of the evening, a debate on the following resolution: "That French as an official language should be retained in Canada."

Mr. Wm. McCormack, B.A., led off for the affirmative in his usual pleasant and impressive style. His speech throughout gave evidence of a thorough knowledge and deep study of the subject. He held the rapt attention of the audience by his clear, forcible and pointed arguments, and when he resumed his seat it was evident that the hearers appreciated his efforts.

Mr. Scully, B.A., leader of the negative, then followed with an able fifteen minutes' speech. He argued that the abolition of French as an official language was just, possible and necessary. Mr. Scully spoke with feeling, energy and effect. Owing to the illness of Mr. Shaw, who was associated with Mr. McCormack on the aff, Mr. G. B. McClean spoke in his place. All credit is due Mr. McClean, who almost at the last moment kindly came forward and took Mr. Shaw's place. Mr. Kuhring then followed. A long residence in the Province and City of Quebec enabled Mr. Kuhring to discuss the subject as one who knew whereof he affirmed. His speech was a direct appeal to English national opinion. Mr. McCormack was allowed five minutes to close the debate. The chairman then impartially summed up the arguments, and, as is the custom, the question was put to the audience for decision. The vote resulted in a victory for the negative. One of the happiest events of the season then closed by singing "God Save the Queen." Many thanks are due for the success of the evening to the untiring efforts of Mr. Geo. S. Sinclair, president.

## COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor of THE VARSITY:

DEAR SIR,—The vehement gentleman whose Junius-like paragraphs blazed in your last issue cannot be said to voice the sentiments of our class. Indeed, sir, we have not the slightest clue to his identity, and the opinion is fast gaining ground that he is not a Freshman at all. But, whoever he is there cannot be the slightest doubt that his picture of our misery was far too highly colored. Severe would be the affliction, formidable would be the enemy that could in the slightest degree disturb "the genial current" of our souls. Surely we are a happy and contented crowd.

To be called "freshie" on Convocation day does not put us out of spirits in the least. To be gagged at the Literary Society is not a misfortune; on the contrary, I esteem it a mental discipline of no mean order. We have yet to learn that a Freshman who "dresses like a gentleman is insulted and soon dons the garb of a tramp." We array our forms in whatever garments we please and have yet to behold the autocrats who shall dictate to us in matters of such a nature. If there be a gentleman in our

year so mean-spirited as to consult the taste of seniors in regard to his personal appearance, the best thing he can do is to leave the college as soon as possible for he is unworthy to enjoy its privileges. Who ever sat on Freshmen in the Glee Club? It is well known that our contingent is by no means the weakest part of that association and that their voices, far from being "tainted with sadness," are extremely powerful and melodious.

The hustling calls for a longer notice. It is generally regarded by us as the one great grievance; not because we are unable to perform our part with credit, but because after such exhibitions of affection we must confess to ourselves that the feelings of love and respect which we naturally wish to entertain for our seniors grow weaker and still more weak. Really it is a very disagreeable duty for us to return such treatment. You have all heard of the Freshman who shed tears before touching the sacred form of a Senior and muttering "it must be done" clasped him round the neck, resolving that if he must be rough he would be rough in a friendly way. Respect our position, gentlemen. Do not compel us to conclude that you are unworthy of our esteem. After all we can't blame those Seniors who happen to be standing in the halls for assisting their brethren in the shove. It is only natural for them to aid their own side when the row has started; but why should the row start?

I must confess, sir, that it is impossible to get very angry at the Seniors of this college. They are such a jolly, clever lot of fellows that when you see the best side of them you can't help liking them. I believe that if a Senior esteemed it his duty to cut off a Freshman's right hand he would do it in such a decent, friendly sort of a way, that the latter would be moved to his inmost soul and hold out his remaining paw for a shake. Gentlemen of the senior years, let us be friends. We fully recognize your seniority to us; we cannot help admiring your talents; even in times of hostility we acknowledge your love of fair play. Why then should any unpleasantness arise between us? Do not imagine that our feelings towards you are what the writer referred to would have you suppose. This is not the place for Ciceros; this is not the time for Philippics. Of the particular Philippic in question I have been charged with the authorship. I rejoice that the charge is false. Inflammatory epistles will never aid in maintaining the honour of our Alma Mater and will never be written by yours respectfully,

WM. P. REEVE.

[To remove any imputation from the other years of having written the letter in question, it might be said that the gentleman signing himself "Freshman" did not wrongfully claim to be a member of the first year.—ED.]

We have received journals from all the principal educational institutions in Canada and the United States, but have not as yet got anything in the shape of an exchange from our sister university at Montreal. Surely an institution of such dimensions and repute as McGill, but having no periodical of any shape or form, is a striking anomaly in the college world of this continent. One of our contemporaries very truly says that "The college or university paper mirrors the life and character of that college or university. It is the door through which those outside of the narrow college circle view its life, its work, and the character of its students. Through the system of the exchange of college magazines, it becomes that by which the other schools judge of its work and general welfare." If McGill really has no such door as that described above, we would be pleased to hear of one being cut at an early date, of useful and ornamental design. It matters little whether it is opened weekly or monthly, although we have a partiality for those that open weekly; and we prefer that the proverbial "push" be executed in a graceful and brilliant and, at times, humorous manner; and also without any flippant remarks, such as "Shorty has a new moustache; we congratulate you, Shorty."



## THE FOOTBALL CONTEST.

## THE ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL TRIP.

Some three weeks since letters of invitation were received by the Association Football Club from the Detroit and Chatham Clubs, who were evidently very eager for a visit from the premier club of this district. It was found impossible for the Varsity champion team to get away, and, with the consent of the Toronto League, a picked team, bearing the name of Toronto, though composed, for the most part, of Varsity players, accepted the invitation, and accordingly left a week ago Wednesday night for Detroit.

That night was spent in the Pullman, but unnecessary to say, sleep gave way to revelry. At last the mighty warriors were overcome by slumber, and naught was heard but the deep loud snore of vanquished greatness. After very melancholy experiences with Fort Gratiot railway sandwiches, which all but compassed the destruction of more than one promising young man, the train at last hove into Detroit. The Griswold House was the rendezvous while there, and that it is a fine hotel was the universal verdict of the boys. The interval preceding the match was spent for the most part at dinner, to which the boys in the words of the poet "did ample justice." At two o'clock they were driven to Olympic Park, the scene of the contest. About three o'clock the game commenced amid the cheers of the assembled spectators, who were very demonstrative throughout. During the first half the play was very even, Detroit scoring once on a nice piece of combined work. But the feature of the game was undoubtedly Toronto's combination in the second half which completely puzzled the Detroit defence. By the way, Detroit possesses in Kay and McKendrick two of the finest backs in the country, and they were many times the salvation of their team. But the Toronto runs had to tell, and Buckingham and Thomson scored in short order. On a combined rush McKendrick, in attempting to clear, made a mis-kick which scored for Toronto. Thus the match ended 3 to 1 in favor of Toronto. Thursday night and Friday morning were spent in the enjoyment of the hospitality of the Detroit boys, who did all possible to make the visit a memorable one.

With cheers for Detroit, the boys boarded the train on Friday afternoon for Chatham, which was soon reached. There they were taken in hand by members of the Chatham Club and made to feel at once at home. A ball on Friday evening, gotten up for the Toronto visitors, gave many opportunities, which were certainly appreciated, for becoming acquainted with the fair maidens of Chatham. On the following day the match was played, and resulted in a score of 3 to 1 in favor of Toronto. In point of excellence the exhibition of football given was far inferior to that shown at Detroit, which is to be accounted for, no doubt, by the dissipation indulged in the night before. After the match, the members of both teams were entertained at the house of Mr. Stone, an old Varsity man. On Sunday afternoon the Toronto players, after a really grand trip, left for home. One an' all left with the greatest regret, and many expressed the determination to revisit the place at their earliest opportunity, showing, undoubtedly, that Chatham maidens had got in their deadly work on the hearts of the Toronto innocents (?). All left with the impression of Chatham as a town of fine fellows and pretty girls. The carrying out of the arrangements in connection with the trip reflect the greatest credit on those who had most to do with the getting up of the expedition; for one is safe in saying that no more enjoyable a time could have been afforded to those who were lucky enough to have been on the team. The following was the team: Porter, Blake, Brekenridge, Gillet, Merrill, Warbrick, Thomson, Hooper, C. Wood, H. Wood, Buckingham and Fraser.

## SPORTING NOTES.

In one of our most respectable contemporaries we find that the the sporting editor is most deplorably ignorant of

the technicalities of football. He screeches owl-like at us because we call a schedule game a tie when the score is 9 to 0. In our infancy we used to hear teams winning ties, and of a tie ending in a draw, and of competition by ties in the Ontario Union, and hope that the above-mentioned editor will also learn some elementary rules, provided it is not too great a tax upon his youthful intellect.

## SOPHOMORES' BANQUET.

The first annual banquet of the class of '93 was held at Harry Webb's on Wednesday evening last. The success of the affair exceeded the most sanguine expectation of those interested. If we may judge from the rapidity with which the viands were transferred from the "groaning" table to the "groaning" occupants of the table, we can safely say that they were relished by all. After the articles named on the lengthy *menu* were disposed of, the boys leaned back to enjoy the literary and musical part of the evening, nor was this in any degree less appreciated than the former part.

The *silence* was broken by the president, Mr. Hellems, arising and proposing the toast to the Queen. This was responded to by three cheers and a hearty singing of the national anthem. The toast to Canada was then proposed by Mr. Anderson and responded to by Mr. Pettinger, who stated that, notwithstanding the extent of the country and the variety of things which were within her territory, he wondered how she could contain such a thing as a Freshman of Toronto University. The Alma Mater toast, next in order, was ably proposed and answered by Messrs. Little and Henry. Mr. Strath proposed "The Graduates," to which Mr. Woodruff, '90, replied in a witty and well-prepared speech. Mr. Knox then favoured the assemblage with a song, entitled "Good Company." In a poetic speech Mr. Bull proposed the toast to the undergraduates. Mr. Henderson conveyed the greetings of '91, and Mr. Graham, in a speech sparkling with wit, did the same for '92. Mr. Reeves then arose amid deafening applause and told us he was a freshman of the freshmen. During his speech he oratorically gave the measurements of a phenomenal seventeen-year-old giant to be found in the Freshman class. Mr. L. A. Moore here delighted all by an instrumental solo, which he was asked to repeat. "The Press" came next, proposed by Mr. Chenevert and answered by Mr. Bunting on behalf of THE VARSITY. Mr. McPherson then sang his favourite "Bally Hooly," accompanied by Mr. Edwards on the banjo. "The Ladies," "Athletics," and "'93," followed, interspersed with music by Messrs. Crosby and Little. The singing of "Old Grimes" and "God Save the Queen" brought to a close this most enjoyable evening.

## COLLEGE WORLD.

The National University at Tokio Japan enrolls 50,000 students.

The Cornell faculty has decided to discontinue the course in Journalism which has been given there for several years past.

In the last seven years Yale has played seventy-eight games of foot-ball, with a total score of 3,963 points to her opponents' eighty.

The oldest college in the world is the Mohammedan college at Cairo, Egypt, which was 1800 years old when Oxford was founded.

The physical statistics of the Freshman class at Amherst show that five per cent. are left-handed, and that fifteen per cent. use tobacco in some form.

The Toronto University foot-ball team holds the Association Championship of Canada. Toronto has won every match they have played for the last two years.—*Harvard Daily Crimson*.



## MIDST THE MORTAR BOARDS.

QUERY.—What would the School of Science men do for jokes if "anything should happen" to Graham?

Northwood, '91, who has been in attendance at the Training Institute in Hamilton, has returned to College.

Prof. Baldwin lectured on "Illusions" in Hamilton, on Friday evening. Professors Hutton, Alexander and Ashley have also lectured in the same city during the past term.

McLay and Duncan of the Canadian International Football Team returned from New York last week. While in New York the former had a very pleasant time with P. McArthur, '92, who is succeeding splendidly in literary work in the metropolis.

Mr. W. H. Metzler, B.A., of '88, in Honors in Mathematics, has won a major fellowship in Mathematics at Clark University, Worcester, Mass. Mr. Metzler is the second successful candidate for mathematical fellowships at Clark, the other being Mr. De Lury.

"India" was the subject of the first missionary meeting held by the Y.W.C.A. Miss Green and Miss Rogers read very interesting and instructive papers, giving the outlines of the work in that country. Miss Houson and Miss Wickett will speak next Wednesday on "Temptation."

The Provisional Committee appointed by the Literary Society to draft a constitution for the Athletic Association will meet tomorrow (Wednesday) afternoon in the Y.M.C.A. The secretary has been corresponding with the secretaries of the Athletic Associations at McGill, Queen's and Detroit, with a view to getting ideas for the use of the committee.

The men of '91 held a meeting last Wednesday, at three o'clock. Owing to the short notice given the attendance was rather small. The meeting was called to consider the question of a class entertainment for this year. Several plans were suggested, but in the end it was resolved to let the matter drop altogether. Some other matters also came up for discussion, but no motions were passed.

The quality of the debates at the meetings of the Political Science Club of '93 is on the continual increase. This was upheld on Monday morning, the 1st inst., when the subject, "Resolved, that the constitutional system of New France was as good as the inhabitants were fit for," was discussed. The speakers were, affirmative, Messrs. Island and Wilson; and negative, Messrs. Davidson and Watson. Mr. McEvoy summed up the arguments and left the decision to the Club. The vote resulted in favor of the supporters of the question by one vote.

Mr. A. T. De Lury, of Clark University, Worcester, Mass., revisited his native land last week, and spent a week or so in Hamilton writing on the Examination for Teachers in Training, held in Hamilton Collegiate Institute. Mr. J. G. Wilton, late of Cornell University, and Mr. J. W. McGowan, of Toronto University, were also in Hamilton writing on the same Examination. This was indeed a meeting of jolly "fellows."

The Glee Club have been practising twice a week for the last two weeks in preparation for their concert to be given in Hamilton, in connection with the Wesleyan Ladies' College, on December 12. Special rates have been secured both by rail and at hotel. Railway fare, \$1.20, return, good for one week. The committee desire a good turn out as this is the most important outing of the club this season. Those wishing to go up with the club can receive the same low rates by applying to the committee.

The Modern Language Club held a regular French meeting on Monday, December 1. In the absence of the President the Vice-President, Mr. Lafferty, took the chair. The author discussed was Ohnet. Interesting and instructive essays on "Le Maître de Forge" and "Le Docteur" were read by Miss Hilloch, '92, and Mr. Cameron of the same year. Mr. Lafferty read a selection in his usually able and expressive style. The members then engaged in French conversation and the air was filled with the most classic French until the hour of adjournment.

Sir Daniel Wilson was at home to the class of '91 on Saturday evening, from five to eight, and the Seniors spent a couple of hours very pleasantly under the roof of our honored President. Many of the professoriate were present and assisted Miss Wilson in entertaining her guests. Among them we noticed Prof. and Mrs. Alexander, Prof. and Mrs. Ashley, Mr. and Mrs. Fairclough, Miss Baldwin and Mr. G. A. H. Fraser. Several vocal selections were rendered by Miss Wilson, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Dockray and Mr. Donald to the delight of all present. After partaking of refreshments and the rendering of "Good Night Ladies" the students retired after having spent a very enjoyable evening.

The Philosophical Society of '93 held its regular meeting on Saturday morning, Mr. Tracy, President, in the chair. Miss Birkenthal was elected Councillor in place of Miss Patterson, who had sent in her resignation. The inaugural address of the President gave emphasis to the importance and grandeur of philosophical study and to the value of a society for discussing the questions in the course. A paper was read by E. A. Henry on "Locke's

Negative Arguments," after which an interesting discussion was engaged in and a number of questions were answered by Prof. Baldwin and Mr. Tracy. The society cordially invite all members of Class of '93 who are interested in psychology and philosophy to attend its meetings every alternate Saturday morning at 10.30 in Y.M.C.A. audience room.

The Class Society of '91 (ladies) held a meeting in the Y.M.C.A. parlor on Saturday last, at 3.30 p.m. The programme consisted in the reading of a poem by the class Poetess, Miss McOual, a piano solo by Miss L. L. Jones, and a debate on the subject: "Resolved,—That separate class organizations are preferable to a common class organization." The speakers on the affirmative were Miss Platt and Miss Carter; on the negative Miss Watt and Miss Bunnell. The decision was finally given by the President, Miss Keys, in favor of the affirmative, owing to the preponderance of arguments brought forward by them and the strong support furnished gratis by the occupants of the next room. The speakers on the affirmative desire to express their heartfelt thanks to these gentlemen for this unexpected assistance.

CLASS OF '92.—A general meeting of the class of '92 was held in the Y.M.C.A. Hall on Tuesday, 25th ult., with President Lamont in the chair. The question of a class dinner was brought up. Some of the class, with the interest of the "other element" at heart, expressed a desire to have a social evening instead. But the "other element" were self-denying and the dinner was decided upon. Tennant was appointed representative to the '93 dinner. Perrin was selected leader of the year for the debate in the Literary Society on Dec. 5th, and other appointments were made for the same evening. Then followed an excellent musical and literary programme, consisting of a paper by the Historian, solo by Tennant, reading by Preston, a guitar solo by Miss Green, which was heartily encored; the Prophet and Orator each made a most successful debut before the class, and the Poet showed a considerable amount of poetic fire. After a reading by Grayham and some remarks from the H. C. L. the meeting adjourned.

The Freshmen class at Harvard this year contains about 375 students; that at Yale about 400.

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