

THE VARSITY

VOL. XIX.

No. 3

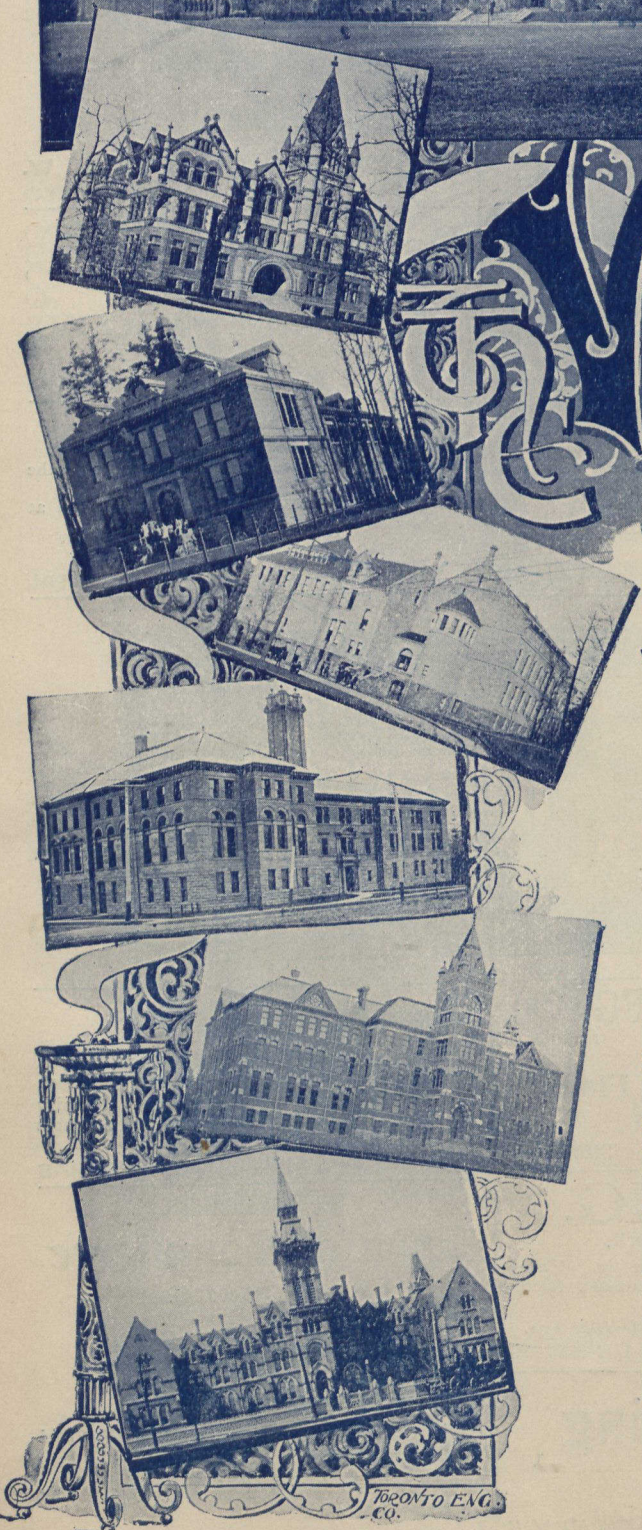
University of Toronto.

TORONTO, NOVEMBER 1st, 1899

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THE VARSITY

A Weekly Journal of Literature, University Thought and Events.

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, NOVEMBER 1, 1899.

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THE MOTHER.

Three years in Hell his Soul did rot ;
Slayer and blackguard, thief and sot.

Then from the Darkness, Myriad-Ghouled,
Spake He who Death and Torment ruled.

"If thou nine days wouldst 'scape the Pit,
This, Damned One, thou must do for it :

Find Her whose womb thy life once bore,
Bone of her bone, core of her core ;

Aye, seek Her where she broods alone,
Dreaming of thee, bone of her bone ;

Cut out her heart, at which still eat
Thy sins, and lay it at my feet !"

The Man went forth ; he as ordained
Brought back to Hell, with hands all stained,

The Heart of Her whose breast had nursed
A Child not she but Hell had cursed.

They who the Nether Darkness trod,
Who on Hell's bars forever gnawed,

Heard Him that o'er their Torment ruled
Laugh in his Chamber, many-ghouled.

"The Test stands good—thou blackest cored
Of all the Scum my Hell shall hoard !

Go, take thy Nine Days as 'twas writ ;
But see—thy foot has trod on it !"

Yea, it, the Heart of Her who bore
Him as a child, had slimed the Floor.

On its fresh blood his footstep fell,
And he struck prone the Floors of Hell.

Loud laughed the Million-Daemoned Deep,
But closer to him it did creep.

And wept, ere he rose up again :
"Bone of my bone, I caused you pain ?"

—Arthur J. Stringer.

SHOTTERY AND WILMCOTE.

RUINS look most haunted, and overflowing with intimate whisperings, in gloomy and rainy weather ; and on some such principle I chose to walk to Shottery in the gloom of evening ; accordingly it seemed to be very free to the caprices of association and fancy.

I have the fortune to be lodging in the celebrated *Falcon Inn*, directly across from Shakespeare's home. Although the *Falcon* was not an inn in the dramatist's time, and the tradition of his revels there is merely fanciful, it was certainly the home of one of his friends, and it is likely that he spent happy hours, and possibly heavy hours, under its roof.

After returning from Shottery I remained down stairs for an hour, listening to the talk and laughing of a number of young fellows, principally farmers from the neighborhood, who were interested in races and fairs, and whose conversation and humor struck me as bright and hearty.

Now it is after ten ; the noises have died away, and the old town is still. On the southwest corner I discern in the darkness the shadowy form of the old Grammar School where Shakespeare studied Ovid—and Holofernes ; blessed school, and excellent Holofernes, that succeeded in not distorting so beautifully proportioned a mind. As I said, the lawn of New Place is on the other corner, and when the grammar school clock strikes twelve I shall look for the fairies that are feigned to dance upon that magic lawn, which as you know is daily cropt for their revels. What difference that Shakespeare walked across that particular acre of this great globe ? Those who understand the deep things of philosophy, and know the real from the seeming, are alone to solve this.

If you walk out High street to Chestnut walk, and along that to the railroad, you will not miss the way to Shottery, even in the dusk of evening. This is the very road and hour that *he* took to visit Anne. The Warwickshire elms are as flat as if cut out of black silk ; a pool still full of belated ducks and geese gleams and reflects its very latest shadows on the left of the good gray dusty road. A young woman standing at a gate and holding a little silhouette of a little girl by the hand toward a large silhouette of an old witch, says, "Kate is real fond o' sweepin'." Then I have to turn out for a boy who is teaching a girl to ride a bicycle, just as *he* might have taught Anne, if bicycles had got themselves invented three centuries earlier. Then a chat with a young peasant, very reserved, very friendly, very independent ; in a word very English and human. And now a good look at the Hathaway cottage ; and a quiet walk home in the deeper shadows. Lights at the cottage windows ; four little boys by the roadside singing a lively song with a refrain ; three little girls under a large tree in Chestnut Walk frightened by a drunken man. They cry out and run madly, greatly enjoying the excitement.

This then is the simple environment of him who, his son-in-law says, was a Nestor, Socrates and Vergil ; for who believes that children, and meadows, and the hearts of youths have changed in three centuries, in spite of the Rebellion and the Hanoverians ? It remains true, how-

ever, that for some reason we have lost the knack of that happy breed of Elizabethans. "When," as Menzel pertinently inquires, "will genius awake?" Here are still the woods and evening skies swimming in mysterious poetry, and the full star that ushers in the even, and all the sweet perfection of this bewitched heart of England, but where is the man who should go with all this, absorb it, and be it, and reflect it?

Irving when he visited Charlecote came to the conclusion that the story about the poaching was true, and he expressed this with his light touch in a very pleasing way. But in these times, people often wonder what the truth seriously was about Shakespeare's nature and the influences that gave form to it. We laugh at the Germans, who worry about his religion and philosophy, but we are by no means indifferent to speculations concerning what one may call the pedagogy that produced him. This reminds me of the speech in Renan's *Caliban* where Angiolino says, "Moi, je pense que les grands hommes viennent sans pédagogie dans les pays où la graine en existe." But Renan suggests, too, that the problem of Aesthetics is this *pedagogy of genius*. This thought of the nature of the environment that is favorable to genius, and its relation to modern pedagogy, seems to give a meaning to much that might in some respects be called trivial.

At Wilmcote I found the home of Mary Arden. Two workmen were at work on the roof. I asked whether they could direct me to the Arden cottage, to which they replied that they were engaged in repairing it.

One quotation kept running through my head: "The Queen that bore thee, Oftener upon her knees than on her feet, Died every day she lived." It is pure fancy, like so many opinions about Shakespeare, but I thought his mother must have given him that idea; and neither the associations of Southwark, nor the Mermaid Inn, nor even the old school, and Charlecote, seemed to throw so satisfactory an illumination upon the Shakespearean pedagogy as this humble cottage where this favored among women learned her sense of duty, and solved her problems of conduct. This is the fountain of those serene, pure and spiritual intuitions that make the closing plays of Shakespeare more profoundly religious than even the works of sublime religious poets. What the conscience is, what the *Weltgeist* is, what the Fancy is, these are problems for philosophers; but a student of the plays may feel competent to maintain that the deeper and more central activities of the soul were not allowed to harden in lethargy in the home-training of the author of *Cymbeline* and the *Winter's Tale*. It is known that he came at last to experience quite clearly the deeper spiritual graces: "He that will all the treasure know o' the earth, Must know the centre too; he that will fish For my least minnow, let him lead his line To catch one at my heart." But if this deepness of feeling came from Mary Arden, our pedagogy seems thrown back upon the necessity, as Holmes remarks, of choosing a suitable ancestry. And this suggests again the question whether the control of youth in its romantic years, a real insight into youth's feelings and aspirations, and a real insight into the true disciplines that can irradiate its energies into mind instead of partly squandering them, whether this control might not after all be a conservation and irradiation of creative energy, and in its way a pedagogy of originality and genius. Would not this be taking the Autocrat's joke seriously?

The clock has just struck twelve in the tower yonder; the candle is burning low. I think a swarm of fairies must be playing tricks in the old school room, and dancing on the smooth lawn. But I confess prosaically that I do not see any. The voices that whispered to Prospero, and that urged Shakespeare at last to resign his rôle and rejoin the

mob of spirits that laugh at us behind the scenes, are silent: very silent: and very remote. But then we mortals are such fools; we do not know how to hear them, nor to command them, and we laugh at those who are so sanguine as to suggest that though genius will not awake we may learn to awaken it. Perhaps the whole crew are off to Arden Forest, or to the banks of the Avon, leaving us to blunder along toward our "better world than this."

"Die Geisterwelt ist nicht verschlossen;
Dein Sinn ist zu, dein Herz ist tot!"

M. F. LIBBY,
Stratford on Avon, England.

ESSAYS OUT OF SCRIBBLERDOM.

THE JOKE-HUNTERS.

IT has always seemed remarkable to me that, with almost all other forms of sport so much exploited, no one has as yet dealt with the hunting of the joke. Every morning and evening in the newspapers, and ceaselessly in the weeklies and monthlies, my readers must see the hides of these small creatures pinned together in long strings in the outlying portions of every other page they glance at. Then again their skins are met with everywhere as the manufactured product in the form of epigrams, limericks, and squibs of prose or verse of constantly varying style and pattern. Yet while these checker every sheet he looks at, it appears to be a matter of little curiosity to the general reader where these jokes are taken, what devices are resorted to in their capture, and, where their little hides are specially prepared before being sold to the papers, how this is done. Yet all this should be interesting enough, since to trap the joke requires a degree of cunning which makes snaring "the nimble marmoset" mere child's play; and when at all successful, the pursuit is almost as profitable as dog-catching in the suburbs of our large cities. Knowing the strange popular lack of acquaintance with this subject, and having now been for some time, together with my friend Van Kapp, engaged in the chase of the joke, I have attempted in this paper to put together such ideas, facts and particulars bearing upon this pursuit as may not only arouse the interest of the general public, but also be of value to the scientific and philosophic mind.

In the first place let no one for a moment imagine that there is any spirit of frivolous laxness or careless levity connected with the capture of the joke. Indeed an extraordinary degree of thoughtful system is called for, since the joke is possessed of an almost flea-like genius for evanescence. I have sometimes come upon some very fine specimens when riding in the "L," but when five minutes later I have whipped out my note-book, they had quite disappeared and left not the slightest track behind. A few nights ago, too, Van Kapp while dreaming surprised a whole flock of them, but on his awaking no amount of patient lying-in-wait for their reappearance, nor crafty baiting of them by a pretence of busying himself with other matters, could induce them to return to their feeding-grounds. These examples will show the vigilance which their pursuit calls for.

The first and perhaps the one essential principle to be recognized if a success is to be made of the chase of the joke, is that the individual hunter must consider himself merely as one integer in the "battue." Indeed, at the beginning, we two were like to have spoiled our whole enterprise by failing to recognize this indispensable condition. When Van Kapp would start a joke he would sel-

fishy raise his hand, and exclaim "Mine!" quite regardless of the fact that very often it was I who had really beaten up the game. Then we settled upon the middle seam in the carpet, and agreed that everything taken on his side of it should be his, and on my side, mine, and that there should be no appeal against this manifestly fair arrangement. But plausible as it seemed, we soon saw that we were in conflict with the natural ordering of things. He was immediately accusing me of having obtained a mean advantage over him by not having called his attention to the fact that the gas was on my side of the room—which forced him to do all his evening hunting in my territory. But surely it is plain to the poorest intelligence that he never started a joke after coming into my field so unwillingly. Visitors, too, added to our feeling that we had begun on a wrong principle, for frequently so disconcerted were they by our importunate efforts to seat them for our individual advantage, that they commonly spoiled the sport for both, rather than improved it for either of us. Moreover, *horribile dictu*, we began to discover that we had been both of us trying to sell the same jokes to the same papers. We were not long in deciding that if we wished to keep unbroken the holiest ties of friendship, and, what probably we each secretly considered of vastly more importance, though kept modestly in the rear by our natural moral dignity, get the greatest individual gain out of our business, we must work systematically together, treat everything taken as common property, and honestly pool our profits.

The joke can hardly be said to have any particular habitat, so widely has it become dispersed. It is found not only in the street car, the market and the theatre, but also in the most solitary and improbable places. Van Kapp avers that he has come upon more in church than the mere law of chance would account for; he attributes this to the "imp of the perverse," as a note-book is exceedingly hard to use with safety in such a situation, and the memory will allow jokes to escape with a treachery nothing short of demoniacal. One's friends and acquaintances frequently prove excellent beaters in joke-hunting, more especially on account of their ignorance of the purpose they are being made to serve; their very innocence of manner enables them to approach much nearer the game than the most expert huntsman could possibly do. Thus our friend Beauregard, the poet, in a call a few days ago gave rise to the following: "that a whole year of sacred fire would not keep the other sort burning for a month," adding "and that's no joke!" "It certainly is, though!" cried Van Kapp, as he nailed its pretty little hide to his note-book. This anecdote will show how much the pleasure of this sport may be added to, if one brings to it the power to appreciate a not unhumorous situation. Yet such considerations should never be allowed to interfere with the serious aspect of the business. Many joke-hunters have been miserable failures merely through giving way to this amiable weakness. To succeed one must give one's whole unfettered attention to the pursuit. Indeed Van Kapp, who before entering the business with me had been making regular calls upon an otherwise very estimable young lady, was readily induced to end these visits when I showed him clearly that he not only brought nothing back with him, but was invariably absent-minded and unalert for the chase throughout the following day. His self-denial has been amply rewarded, I need hardly say.

I have said that the joke has no particular habitat, but I should perhaps qualify this statement by adding that it has one favorite feeding-ground, and that is the dinner table. If the joke-hunter finds it otherwise at his table, he should at once seek another, for he may rest assured that if he does not make the best part of his daily kill during these orty minutes the locality he has chosen is particularly bad.

The situation may be greatly influenced by climatic conditions, as also of course by environment. Roughly, the perfect table should be surrounded by two or three prosperous old bachelors, and after that by as many healthy young people as possible. A sprightly widow is, on the whole, desirable, but has certain drawbacks. Women with very young children will spoil the best feeding grounds. Diet, too, can affect much, but this is a phase of the subject which I do not care to go into in this hurried paper. It is much too subtle to be more than touched upon here; I will merely point out to whomsoever may decide to go deeper into the matter, that he will find some of his most valuable 'leading hints' in the respective psycho-chemical reactions of the various courses. Thus jokes very rarely appear during the period of soups and fish, and appear in their greatest number during the time of ices and fruits. But I must not pause at this philosophical aspect of joke-hunting, intensely interesting as it is.

A great mistake which the young Nimrod may fall into is to assume that nothing can be done to improve the hunting other than the utilization of beaters, and the posting of them in the most advantageous positions. But this is an altogether wrong idea. The joke is a creature which is by nature prone to the lure. When the joke-hunter goes to the dinner-table, he should go provided with some decoys; these he may use as opportunity prompts him, throwing them out at various times and in different directions. He should encourage the alighting joke, too, as much as possible, without running the danger of alarming them. A blithe and honest laugh has been known to bring down a whole flock, while the rash production of a note-book has frightened a very fine flight from their wonted feeding-grounds for the rest of the season.

ARTHUR E. MCFARLANE.

S. P. S. NOTES.

Notwithstanding the mist and rain on Saturday afternoon, the faculty and senior students of the S.P.S. enjoyed a most interesting excursion over the line of the Metropolitan Railway as the guests of Mr. J. W. Moyes, superintendent, and Mr. Jas. McDougall, C.E., engineer. A special car was provided and every opportunity was afforded for the examination of the road. The new electric locomotive and the machinery for generating the high potential current at Bond's Lake, transmitting it to York Mills and there transforming it into a current of ordinary intensity, were objects of special interest, and elicited much admiration. On arriving at Newmarket the party proceeded to Cane's woodenware factory, where they were received by Mayor Cane and conducted through the works. The new drying kilns, the special machinery and labor-saving devices were fully explained. On the return journey a stop was made at Aurora for supper at the Queen's Hotel, where, after the usual patriotic toasts, the health of Messrs. Moyes and McDougall was enthusiastically proposed.

On Wednesday a meeting of the Engineering Society was held. The names of those elected will appear next week.

—Of all our study the last end and aim should be to ascertain how a great writer, or artist, has served the life of man; to ascertain this, to bring home to ourselves as large a portion as may be of the gain wherewith he has enriched human life, and to render access to that store of wisdom, passion and power, easier and surer for others. If our study does not directly or indirectly enrich the life of man, it is but a drawing of vanity with cart-ropes, a weariness to the flesh, or at least a busy idleness.—*Dowden*.

The College Girl

On Saturday night last the first regular meeting of The Women's Literary Society was held with as good an attendance as could be expected on such a rainy evening. Miss Hughes, on opening the meeting, thanked the members for electing her as their president and impressed upon them the fact that the society could not be successful unless every undergraduate helped to make it so. The programme for the evening consisted of two piano solos and a play. The new first year was well represented on the programme, and, on the whole, it seems to be accomplished in many ways, and will no doubt be a most useful addition to the society. Miss Allen and Miss Lough both played exceedingly well, the former Ascher's "Alice," and the latter the second Mazurka of Godard. The dramatic performance was a farce written by Tudor Jenks and called "A Mellow-Drama." As the name implies, it is a travesty on melodrama and affords great opportunities for real comedy. It was a play in which the actors were supposed to be conscious that they were on the stage, as in that farce of John Kendrick Bangs in "The Dreamers." The parts were taken by the Misses Carrie Macdonald, Watt, Cockburn, Hutchison, McMurty and Cameron. The audience enjoyed it to the full, particularly as there were two characters so thoroughly abandoned in wickedness that they found it hard to decide which was intended for the traditional villain. In fact, it was a very peculiar play, since the whole denouement hinged on the fact that there was not the expected denouement, as there was no fifth act, and thus was the villain foiled. After the play it was very hard to settle to the business of the evening, but there were some offices to be filled and some matters to be discussed. The result of the elections was as follows:—1st year councillor of the Women's Literary Society, Miss McMurtry; Curator, Miss Cameron; 2nd year representative to Editorial Board of *Sesame*, Miss Robinson; 1st year representative to same, Miss Moore; 2nd year representative to Editorial Board of *Varsity*, Miss Easson. The *English Review of Reviews*, *McClure's* and *Munsey's* were the magazines decided on for the reading room for this year.

The Fencing Club is now fairly started, as all the hours are arranged. The committee has tried hard to select hours to accommodate every member, and as there are lessons every day in the morning and on one afternoon in the week, everyone who wishes to learn should be able to find opportunities.

Miss J. Dickson did not return to college this fall. Miss Easson has been elected to fill the office on the editorial board of *Varsity* left vacant by Miss Dickson.

Y.W.C.A.

The topic of the Y.W.C.A. for last Tuesday was "Pray, Study, Give." Miss A. C. Macdonald, 'or, spoke on the study of missions, based on God's Word; passages of Scripture were quoted as warrants for missionary work. "God who has given us these warrants, also gives the promise of success in carrying out his commands."

The missionary study class had its first meeting for this year, last Friday, in the Y.M.C.A. parlour. Miss A. C. Macdonald gave an interesting introductory talk on the geography and history of Japan. The class meets every Friday evening at 5 o'clock.

Miss A. J. Dickson, 'oo, briefly presented the work to be taken up in the Missionary Study Class this year, viz.: The Study of Japan—its geography and history, its religions, and the missions, both past and present, in connection with Japan. Here a delightful rendering of the hymn "A sweetly solemn thought comes to me o'er and o'er" was given by Miss Austin. After which Miss Little, B.A., ex-president of the college Y.W.C.A., explained and reviewed the work of the Canadian Colleges Mission.

Miss Elizabeth Ross, travelling secretary of the S.O.M.F.M., will be in Toronto from Nov. 23rd to Dec. 7th inclusive, to meet with the young women of the various colleges in the city.

The Bible Class for the young women of the college had its first regular meeting last Sunday. Dr. Tracy took up Study I. as outlined in Sharman's *Studies in the Life of Christ*.

HALLOWE'EN.

THERE are few functions in which the students of the various colleges can be said to co-operate either as spectators or principals with that unanimity, enthusiasm and subsequent success which becomes the student body. Such, however, has been the case in the Hallowe'en presentation of "A Midsummer Night's Dream." The presentation has brought together men from the various colleges in a single venture and has promoted that good fellowship that should be more prominent.

The student body has been brought into touch with the younger talent of Toronto and is greatly indebted to the young ladies for assisting so finely. This fact should be appreciated. Too much is heard round college of isolation—it is heard said, "what do students want with Toronto society? Let them have their student functions for themselves," as if Toronto society and the students were antagonists. This question loses point in a connection such as this, and had we more of these widening influences at work it would forever cease to be broached.

The students taking part have done credit to themselves and honor to the student body as a whole. They have shown anew the versatility of college men, and have also given the public, in an appreciable form, an exhibition of talent of which they can well be proud. In a short notice such as this the mention must needs be general. Much praise is due Mr. H. N. Shaw for his excellent work as instructor, to Prof. Torrington for his rendition of the difficult music from Mendelssohn, and to Mr. McEntee and the other members of the Hallowe'en Club executive for their management of the affair. The following composed the cast: G. W. Hastings, H. N. Shaw, W. O. Watson, A. E. Hamilton, C. H. Boehmer, E. N. Armour, A. L. Burch, A. N. Mitchell, F. E. Brophey, S. H. Bartlan, J. Little, Percy Carson, Miss Angele Rumpth, Miss Louise Catherine Proctor, Miss Ethel Schofield and many others.

Varsity and the "School," as of old, held sway in the "gods," and Osgoode, Dentals and Trinity in the first gallery. Between the acts "The Maple Leaf" and "Litoria" were sung, and Trinity rendered her famous Greek song "Metagona." Kruger, in effigy, appeared above the pit to the tune "We will hang old K. on a sour apple tree, etc." He was followed by another Boer in black and white, at whom Osgoode took offence. This latter gentleman was dissected and cross-examined by the lawyers, and his anatomical sections were presented to certain important personages in the pit.

At 12 o'clock the students left the Princess, and marching north serenaded a few of the sanctums of the fair sex, and then departed home assured that they had witnessed a red-letter night in their college life.—F. E. BROWN.

The News

LITERARY SOCIETY.

The second meeting of the "Lit" was held on Friday night, the vice-president in the chair. On the minutes being read Mr. A. E. Hamilton took exception to the use of the word "supervisory" as applied to the joint board for the management of student functions and suggested the word "advisory." Mr. Cornish explained away the objection by reference to the minutes of last year, and the minutes were accordingly approved. Mr. Cornish announced that a meeting of the Intercollegiate Debating Union executive had been held and that Varsity had been drawn in the first round against Osgoode. Mr. R. B. Cochrane then nominated Messrs. R. S. Laidlaw and A. N. Mitchell to represent Varsity. These were declared elected. At this point Mr. Garvey and Mr. Cornish "spotted" graduates in humble seats in the rear of the hall. These were enthusiastically cheered to the front, and Mr. T. A. Russell and Mr. J. A. Cooper ascended the platform.

A. H. R. Fairchild moved the adoption of a report appointing F. E. Brophey to fill the place of a third year representative on the editorial board vacated by the resignation of G. F. McFarland. Carried. S. A. Cudmore, '03, and Geo. Biggs were nominated and elected first year representatives on the editorial and business boards respectively. Two '03 councillors were reported as needed for The Lit. executive. The following were nominated. The nominor declared in each case that his candidate was the best known or most popular man in the year or ought to have been or would be: A. C. Ross, by A. H. McLeod; Baird, by R. A. Cassidy; Chas. Allen, by R. J. Wilson; Isaac Woods, by R. B. Cochrane; Chydsley, by Fyle; George Roberts, by F. Lucas, and D. Biggs by A. E. Hamilton. The elections take place next Friday evening.

Mr. Cooper, representing the Canadian Club, called for two representatives from Varsity to co-operate with a down-town committee in making arrangements for a lecture for the benefit of the U.C.C. Library. The lecture was to be delivered by Dr. Parkin on "The Transvaal." Dr. Parkin, besides being a talented and eloquent speaker, is a very personal friend of Sir Alfred Miner, and is therefore well fitted to handle the subject. Mr. Cooper then spoke of the benefit of taking an active personal interest in student affairs not directly connected with the college course. He said that from having watched the class lists of Varsity, Queen's and McGill, he felt confident that nine-tenths at least of the scholarship men were unsuccessful in after life. College life was a grand training when properly used and appreciated. For the past two years the university students had been abusing their privileges by spending too much of their time in societies which were unimportant.

Mr. D. E. Kilgour moved, seconded by Mr. Garvey, that The Lit. appoint two representatives as requested. "Sandy" McLeod then nominated the framers of the motion as the two representatives. Appointed.

Under the heading of new business, A. W. Keith introduced a very old gown, which he presented to the society. The programme was next proceeded with and "Dan" Urquhart was the first to get sideways into Mr. Keith's donation. He rendered a solo and an encore in a very acceptable manner. Mr. H. W. Ingram was called upon for an essay. He took as his subject, "Fraternization—Key to True Culture," which he treated in an interesting manner. He very appropriately concluded with a few lines from Kipling.

The debate between the third and fourth year representatives next took place. The subject was, "Resolved that party government is the best form of government for Canada."

E. P. Burton, '01, introduced the debate in a neat speech, and was followed by H. G. Willson, '00, who referred several times to politics by way of illustration. At first persons thought him a Grit, then a Tory and then they could not tell just what he was.

A. J. Fisher, '01, followed in a very forcible speech, going for the negative in a hammer-and-tongs fashion on a philosophical point. It was a funny speech and everybody enjoyed a good laugh.

Mr. McNeil, '00, took the difficult part of pointing out forms of government which had been tried and found better than party government.

Mr. T. A. Russell decided the debate; he elucidated the points which the debaters had tried to make and gave the decision in favor of the third year. He advised the making use of a logical and definite plan in debating and not leaving a point until it had been driven home. He spoke of the excellent opportunity there was for debating now that the Intercollegiate Debating Union had been established; that to represent Varsity was an honor which any undergraduate could well consider great.

The programme at the "Lit." next Friday evening will be unusually varied. On the programme are an essay, a prepared speech and a recitation; while instrumental and vocal music will enliven the proceedings. A departure will be made in having impromptu speeches, thus affording a good opportunity for wit and oratory.

THE PARADE.

The Varsity and Victoria men assembled at 1.30 on the lawn on Wednesday, and marched in a body to the Armories, where they were joined by the men from the other colleges. The Faculty were well represented and led the student body. The students added no little interest to the parade by their songs, "There's a place where the Boers ought to go, etc." and "We will hang old Kruger on a sour apple tree, etc." The main body of the Varsity men arrived on the lawn again at 5 o'clock, and after giving three cheers for the contingent, three for Varsity, and three groans for the Boers, they separated.

NATURAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

At the opening meeting of "The Natural Science Association," last Friday, the president, Prof. Macallum, gave a most interesting address on "Palæolithic and Neolithic Man," illustrating it with photographs of the remains of their works found in Brittany, France. The lecturer pointed out the differences between the Palæolithic or earlier, and the Neolithic or later people, showing that they were distinct races; and explained how, by a study of the remains, archæologists arrive at many of their conclusions respecting the habits, customs and religion of our pre-historic ancestors.

—"Spell ferment and give its definition," requested the school teacher. "F-e-r-m-e-n-t, ferment, to work," responded the diminutive maiden. "Now place it in a sentence, so that I may be sure you understand its meaning," said the teacher. "In the summer I would rather play out of doors than ferment in the school house," returned the small scholar, with such decided frankness and unconscious humor that the teacher found it hard to suppress a smile.—*Philadelphia Times*.

The Varsity

Published weekly by the students of the University of Toronto. Annual subscription, One Dollar, payable strictly in advance. For advertising rates apply to the Business Manager. Address all communications for publication to the Editor-in-Chief, University College.

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D. E. KILGOUR, *Business Manager.*

A. F. AYLESWORTH, *Assistant Business Manager.*

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TORONTO, November 1st, 1899.

PUBLIC CRITICISM OF OUR UNIVERSITY.

LAST week we had something to say concerning the Residence question; when it was shown that much of the agitation subsequent to the Council's announcement of its resolution was due primarily to some of our graduates. In dealing next with the public criticism which has been made to arise out of that agitation, we make no tacit acknowledgment that we thus recognize an immediate connection between "The Residence Question" and what is unfortunately heralded as a "crisis" in our University. On the contrary we desire most emphatically to protest against the connection that has been made. Either there has been a grossly illogical deduction, or the Council's action has been taken as affording an excellent opportunity to those adherents of a questionable kind of humanitarianism, who believe that they are doing good service whenever they can drag the fair name of the University before the public. Whatever may be the means by which the connection was made, it is a satisfaction to know that the wheel is come full circle, and that what could be little more than a blind and egotistical desire for precedence in heralding a movement, has been met with a refutation of the existence of a "crisis," by those who best understand University affairs.

But despite this satisfaction, the fact remains that adverse criticism has been made of our University; the cue has been taken by the seekers of sensation; statements and propositions, extreme in accordance with the ignorance of the true state of affairs, have been made, and general impressions have been given which can scarcely be helpful to our University. We can only regret this, of course, in so far as it may prove prejudicial, and hope that the opportunity which is thus presented for a brief statement of some of the possible causes of this criticism may not be entirely misused.

The readiness with which the conclusion seems to have been drawn that a crisis exists in this University,

suggests what is probably the true cause of the whole difficulty. We refer, of course, to the prevailing spirit of the day. We are well aware of the precaution necessary in this connection. The spirit of any age is not to be lightly defined or antagonized; we should endeavor patiently to discover its controlling ideas and its probable contribution to life; but those who speak with authority tell us that the immense accessions of knowledge in recent years, especially in the scientific world, have caused a disturbance in the intellectual life, and there is now an imperative demand for demonstrable truth, and for things practical and useful. Almost anyone can discover the low imaginative ebb at which present tendencies are, but the discovery of the fact affords but a slight basis for destructive generalizations concerning the future production of vital ideas, or indeed, concerning their present existence, for it is quite possible that they exist without being recognized. The very clearness of the light with which people now see things suggests partial vision, while the definiteness of their call to duty often intimates the probability of illusion.

But, if there are certain practical demands being made upon our University, outside dissatisfaction with the manner in which those are met is by no means an unfailing indication of weakness in the University; rather, the probability is that, to the degree in which those demands are peculiar to the needs of the day, the wisdom of the University is shown in refraining from any attempt at meeting them. There is such a thing as a good degree of stillness in a University, and there are questions which the outside world must settle for itself. If a University do not preserve something of a traditional spirit quite free and apart from the uncertain variations of the world; if it become the creature and the toy of enthusiasts and emotionalists, it will soon become spiritually desiccated; it will destroy when it should help, and become a menace instead of a blessing; it cannot truly fulfil even the humblest of its functions. And it is because men have come upon a fog-bank in late years, that some, who cannot see the sunlight beyond, have grown despondent and hypercritical. Because they have not got the peculiar kind of help they needed they imagine that the University is responsible, and in their imaginations have found a "University Crisis," and that, too, one that has more than a financial aspect.

However, we make no attempt to wrap about us the cloak of self-complacency. Concessions to a spirit, not of the best for the University, have probably been made; the clearness of discernment of ideals beyond present day needs, has, in many cases, been lost. As students we have here an over-devotion to books, rather than to men; the study of the cold-blooded fact is given pre-eminence over contact with inspiring personality; and, while there is no inherent antagonism between the most splendid originality and complete mastery of facts, there is the increasing possibility, and even probability, that originality may be degraded to lower interests. It is quite inevitable, perhaps, that some sort of response to the demands made upon us should be given, but it is just as unfortunate wherever there has

been a consequent lack of fidelity to an ever advancing ideal. This is a matter primarily in the hands of students themselves; it is one in which they bear an individual responsibility; it is a danger to which we seem particularly liable just at the present time.

Naturally it may be supposed that the instruction and direction which we receive will, and does have some considerable influence in this respect. Sometimes this is far from what we should desire; on the other hand, influences are often brought to bear upon the students with all the genius of complete mastery, only to meet with disdain, because they cannot be seen to fit needs of the day or year. There are defects in our University constitution; there appear at times to be imperfections in the kind of instruction given, but the institution entirely free from these faults rests on no human basis; such faults are not to be heralded before those who do not understand them; and the great fact remains that we far too often lose the great opportunity of coming in touch with *personality*. By this alone can be imparted to the student that undying zeal and interest which comes from the larger vision and the greater power of a master, and which is the true secret of that splendid enthusiasm that arises from such an awakening. Personality is the true source of any real power we gain at a University, and those who neglect it choose the shortest route to the defeat of their own most cherished ambitions. Not all the men we come in contact with here can be said to be inspiring, but the weight of influence is undoubtedly on the traditional side that makes for culture; and if, in their preparations to meet the demands of the day, our students enslave themselves instead of finding a loftier freedom, they have themselves to blame.

There is no "crisis" at Toronto University, either financial or intellectual. Our finances, it is true, could be in better condition, but scarcely better managed. On the intellectual side we have been charged with a lack of "ideas." Fortunately these are not something that can be handled and tasted, or indeed seen floating from our chimney-tops. We are sufficiently conscious of imperfections on all hands to prevent any very deadening self-satisfaction, and we believe there are strong desires here for better things, and great hopes of noble achievements. We need not be very deeply concerned about this public criticism. It is but the cry of dissatisfaction flung at the University because some have gained what they sought and been disappointed. Now they would like to shift the responsibility. There is even a note of hopefulness in the cry, because it bespeaks new and perhaps better things; but it contains also a note of warning to those in training, to avoid similar error.

It is only in the last two decades that education has come to be viewed as a whole, and given any kind of definite basis of philosophy. Full consideration should be taken of this fact, for from a proper view of the place and function of education must come the use to which it is put. The future belongs to him who is most adequately prepared to comprehend and utilize its opportunities unselfishly. For a time we may expect error and difficulty in many

fields, but if we, as students, satisfy ourselves simply with a refutation of such charges as have been made against our University, without proceeding to an examination of our share in the responsibility, we are shirking our duty and losing an opportunity which can be neglected only to our own cost.

This Week's Varsity. The article this week by Mr. M. F. Libby, is one which will no doubt meet with the favor of VARSITY readers. Mr. Libby was at one time English master in the Jameson Ave. Collegiate Institute. He is now pursuing post graduate work at Göttingen, Germany.

Mr. Arthur J. Stringer is well and favorably known as one of our successful graduates. He is in New York at present, and is just about to publish a volume of poems from a Boston press.

Mr. A. E. McFarlane also contributes a clever article.

Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

Rev. Wm. Patterson was in his usual bright style when he addressed the regular Y. M. C. A. meeting on Thursday afternoon last. He referred to some of the Mistakes of Moses and in each instance drew helpful lessons for the men of our own day.

Next Thursday, Nov. 2nd., Rev. J. Wilkie, principal of Indore College, Central India, will be present and will speak on "Student Life in India."

F. W. Anderson, General Secretary of the Association, left yesterday for Winnipeg, where he will spend a couple of weeks visiting the Colleges of the City. From there Mr. Anderson will make a tour of the Colleges in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan in the interest of the Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions. After New Year's Mr. Anderson will visit the remaining Colleges of Canada from London in the west to Halifax in the east.

The Executive Committee met on Saturday and made plans for a series of daily meetings during the week of prayer for young men, Nov. 12th to 18th.

'02 CLASS ELECTIONS.

On Tuesday afternoon, the 24th ult., a good representation of '02 assembled in the West Hall to elect its officers for the ensuing year. It is to be regretted that the elections were conducted on far from a business-like basis. Since the elections are practically the only business meeting of the year, as a whole, an effort should be made to make it an orderly business-like meeting. This would also facilitate the appointing of the lengthy list of officers which required an unnecessarily long time on Tuesday afternoon.

The following are the new officers, and under them the affairs of '02 are sure to be successfully managed.

President, J. A. Soule; 1st Vice-President, Miss M. M. Phillips; 2nd Vice-President, A. E. Hamilton; Secretary, H. T. Wallace; Treasurer, E. R. Paterson; Musical Director, C. W. Darling; Athletic Director, S. P. Biggs; Critic, J. M. Denholm; Prophetess, Miss C. L. Mott; Poetess, Miss B. King; Orator, R. B. Cochrane; Judge, H. J. Symington; Historians, Miss M. E. Marshall, Miss A. May; Councillors, Miss J. M. Easson, Miss M. M. McMahan, W. H. Little, A. Magee.

Athletics

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

TRINITY MEDS. VS. VARSITY I.

Last Saturday's football matches have made a considerable change in the standing of the different Varsity football clubs. By winning from Queen's, Varsity I. have strengthened their position for the championship, from which it would seem impossible to dislodge them. The second team, on the other hand, has weakened its position in the race by suffering defeat at the hands of the fast team that the Cadets sent down, and if Varsity wishes to remain a factor in the Intermediate League, the seconds will have to make up eight points in the next match at Kingston. As far as Varsity III. were concerned, it was a case of sudden death, since the beating that London gave them has smothered any aspirations they may have had for championship honors.

QUEEN'S VS. VARSITY.

The rain which poured down steadily on Saturday afternoon kept away a great many people from one of the best games that has been played on the Bloor St. grounds this season. Queen's brought down a greatly strengthened team, but try as they would they could not score against the blue and white. The soggy condition of the ground invited scrimmage play, but in spite of that some fine kicking was done by Elliott and Darling. The wings on both sides played strong, aggressive games, but Varsity excelled in following up. The only score in the first half was a try which Brown secured after a splendid run, but which Darling failed to convert.

In the second half the play was more even, and for a while it looked as if Queen's would score, but a run by Fleck, Biggs and Barr, during which the latter got over for another try, seemed to take the heart out of Queen's, and the rest of the game was all Varsity. The teams lined up as follows:

VARSETY, 10.—*Back*, Beale; *halves*, Brown, Darling, Biggs; *quarter*, Fleck; *scrimmage*, Mallock, Mullen, Isbester; *wings*, Telford, Meredith, Russell, Gibson, MacCallum, Biggs and Barr.

QUEEN'S, 0.—*Back*, McDonald; *halves*, Kingstone, Elliott, Walker; *quarter*, McDonell; *scrimmage*, Young, Carr-Harriss, Russell; *wings*, Branscomb, Carr-Harriss, Dewitt, Sheriff, Etherington, McDonald.

Referee, J. L. Todd, McGill. Umpire W. Irving, McGill.

R.M.C. VS. VARSITY II.

In the first match of the finals for the intermediate collegiate league Varsity II. was somewhat easily defeated by the Cadets. The game was played in the morning while the grounds were in much better condition than later in the day, and throughout the play was fast and clean. Varsity scored first on a run by Aylesworth and Armstrong, but R.M.C. soon evened matters, and at the end of the first half the score was 6 to 6.

In the second half the Cadets had much the best of it, scoring 8 points while their opponents failed to score. This left the score 14 to 6.

The teams lined up as follows:

R.M.C.—*Back*, McLaren; *halves*, Lowe, Caldwell, Harty; *quarter*, Baker (captain); *scrimmage*, Kirkland, Lindsay, Ridout; *wings*, Millson, Murphy, Gibbons, Robertson, Keith, McConkey, Clark.

VARSETY.—*Back*, McDonald; *halves*, McArthur, Aylesworth (captain), Gibson; *quarter*, Harcourt; *scrimmage*, Telford, Douglas, Rutter; *wings*, MacLennan, Montizambert, Armstrong, Hoyles, Gander, Harrison, Paterson.

Referee, Boyd, U.C.C. Umpire, McArthur.

The old time rivals, Varsity and the Trinity Meds. met again in a league match on Monday afternoon. The result was highly satisfactory to the great crowd of sympathizers who surround the campus, and even the long line of Trinity supporters could not help but applaud the game. The play was very fast and exciting all through, but was one-sided in the last half, as the time was spent mainly in shooting on the Trinity goal. One was scored in the first half in a mass play, and great defense work on the Medicals' part kept out everything but two in the second part of the game, which were scored by Burton, leaving the score 3-0. Hutton and Pierson made things very interesting for Varsity, and proved themselves about the fastest wing around. VARSITY.—*Goal*, Soule; *Backs*, Telford, Harrison; *Halves*, Biggs, Smillie, Dymont; *Forwards*, Allan, Trumpour, McQueen, Burton, Broder.

MCMMASTER VS. VARSITY II.

It was decided by the onlookers that Varsity's Intermediate team were not so few, when they won out against the McMaster seconds, in a garrison finish on Monday. Varsity was outplayed at first, McMaster seeming stronger and heavier, but ere long the boys rallied, and from the many shots they made managed to score two near the last. The game ended with Varsity hurrying things at a hot pace. They seem to be in good condition. The forwards and goal are "class," but there is a weak spot here and there in the defence. Roebuch has a badly injured knee and could not play the game through, Gowland replacing him. VARSITY.—*Goal*, White; *Backs*, Roebuch, McBean; *Halves*, Cranston, Phipps, Hackney; *Forwards*, Allan, Fisher, Cudmore, De Lury, Gilchrist.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

The Rugby dance will take place either on Nov. 28th or Dec. 1st.

Misses Pierce and Mullins and Mr. Ruthven, all of '98, are in New York city.

Some outsiders seem to have worked their way into the Osgoode party at the Princess on Hallowe'en, and their action cast an unfavorable reflection upon the usual good conduct of the Osgoode men.

H. J. O'Higgins, B.A., '98, is down in New York city with A. E. McFarlane. Hé is writing for the New York Tribune, Sun, Commercial Advertiser, and Puck. Recently he had the two middle pages in Puck.

The regular practices of the Harmonic Club will be held in the Students' Union Hall, as follows: Vocal Dept., Tuesday and Friday at 4.30 p.m.; Banjo, Guitar and Mandolin Dept., Monday and Wednesday at 8 p.m. Every member requested to attend regularly, as a roll will be kept.

The following notice, which appears on the bulletin board, seems to be rather significant: "Tenders will be received by the Bursar for the purchase of articles of furniture, etc., in the Residence. They can be seen by applying to the Dean any day this week between 2 and 3 o'clock p.m."

—Obedience is the schoolmaster of self-restraint.—
Baldwin.

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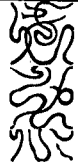
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NORMAL COLLEGE NOTES.

R. Tegler has left our ranks after a three weeks' trial. We were sorry to lose him.

G. A. Kingston received a telegram saying that his brother had died suddenly. Our class-mate may not return to O.N.C.

E. T. Bishop, '99, is *not* attending Normal College. He has been seen in our halls and in the city a few times, but he is *not* in training for pedagogical work.

Our first victory in football was an easy one when we defeated the Business College. The next victory was still easier. O.N.C. defeated Waterdown 8-1. It seems a little like a Varsity-Queen's Rugby score.

Next Friday evening is looked forward to with considerable interest. Our first "At Home" will give an opportunity of becoming acquainted, and everyone is expecting to spend a most enjoyable evening.

BOARDING HOUSE GEOMETRY.

DEFINITIONS AND AXIOMS.

1. All boarding houses are the same boarding house.
2. Boarding in the same boarding house and on the same flat are equal to one another.
3. A single room is that which has no parts and no magnitude.
4. A landlady of a boarding house is a parallelogram, that is, an oblong and angular figure, which is equal to anything and cannot be described.
5. A wrangle is the disinclination of two boarders to each other, that meet together but are not on the same flat.
6. All the other rooms being taken, a single room is said to be a double.

POSTULATES AND PROPOSITIONS.

1. A pie may be produced any number of times.
2. A landlady can be reduced to her lowest terms by a series of propositions.
3. A bee-line can be made from any one boarding house to any other boarding house.
4. The clothes of a boarding-house bed, though produced ever so far both ways, will not meet.
5. Any two meals are together less than one square meal.
6. If from the opposite ends of a boarding house a bee-line be drawn passing through all the rooms in turn, then the stove pipe which warms the boarders will be within that line.
7. On the same bill and on the same side of it there should not be two charges for the same thing.
8. If there be two boarders on the same flat, and the amount of side of the one be equal to the amount of side of the other, each to each, and the wrangle between one boarder and the landlady be equal to the wrangle between the landlady and the other, then shall the weekly bills of the two boarders be equal, each to each. For if not, let one bill be the greater, then the other bill is less than it might have been, which is absurd.

—"How came you here?" said the visitor to a prisoner in the penitentiary. "I was brought here by my convictions," was the firmly spoken reply.—*Tit-Bits*.

—SETTING HIM AT IT.—"It shall be my ambition, father," said the young man who had finished his education and was ready to lift the cares of business from the parental shoulders—"it shall be my ambition and my motto to keep the family name free from stain." "All right," said the old man. "Tell Mike to give you the whitening and ammonia and then you go out and polish up the sign."—*Indianapolis Journal*.

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Education Department Calendar.

- DEC. 5.—Practical examinations at Provincial Normal Schools begin.
- 11.—County Model Schools examinations begin.
- 13.—Written examinations at Provincial Normal Schools begin.
- 15.—County Model Schools term ends.
- 15.—Provincial Normal Schools close.
- 22.—High Schools first term, and Public and Separate Schools close.

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THE ROTUNDA

Notice the Grand Opera ad. this week.

Miss J. Dickson will not return to college this fall.

S. Blumberger, B.A., '99, has gone to the missionary field.

N. F. Coleman spent Monday of this week at Berlin.

There are 145 entered in the class at the Normal College this year.

Everybody says the Hallowe'en demonstration was all right.

Have you read *Richard Carvel* yet? A very interesting story. Copp, Clark Co.

Miss Marion Lang, '00, spent last summer travelling on the Continent.

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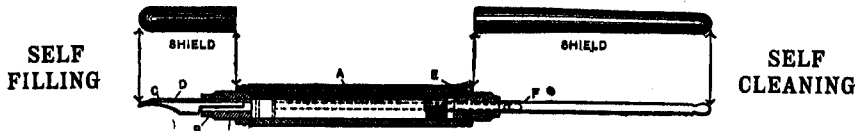
Dr. H. G. Barrie, Intercollegiate Y.M.C.A. secretary, left on Friday night last to join the Canadian contingent as Y.M.C.A. secretary.

F. W. Anderson, B.A., general secretary of the Y.M.C.A., left yesterday for Winnipeg to visit the colleges of that city in the interests of Y.M.C.A. work.

The attention of the students is drawn to the fact that Mr. W. Sanford Evans, M.A., will deliver a public lecture in the Conservatory Music Hall on Friday evening, Nov. 3, at 8 o'clock. The subject of the lecture is "George Eliot as a Novelist."

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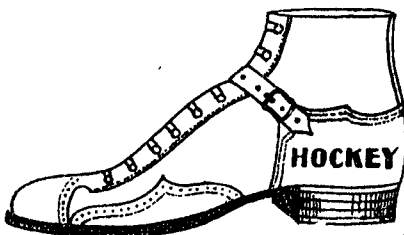
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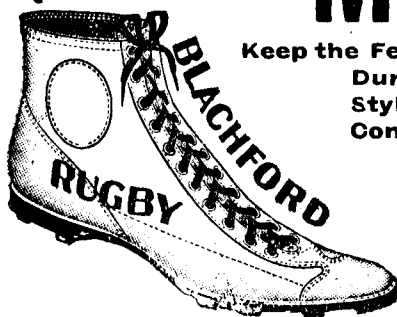
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