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# THE VARSITY

### A Weekly Journal of Literature, University Thought and Events

Vol. XXI.

University of Toronto, December 10, 1901.

No. 9

#### REVERIES.

Sweet are the twilight thoughts, Roseate after the sunset, crystal clear Like roral drops that fall from cloudless skies, Low-sighing thoughts like breath of evening breeze, Like sleep that stealeth soft o'er infants' eyes.

When darkness deeper grows
And veils the world below, thoughts deeper rise,
Chaste as Diana's beams, like mystic song
Of scintillating stars since time began,
Of stars prophetic thro' the ages long.

Yea, thoughts are deep at night,— Waked while I gaze upon the firmament, Wrapt in the silence of infinity, Calmed 'neath the majesty of Nature's sway, Awed in the presence of Divinity.

-F. M. W.

#### THOROUGHNESS.

Surprising indeed is the report that one of our wellknown educators recently declared, "You may talk of thoroughness in your high schools, but in the university thoroughness has no place." It may sometimes seem that such a broad statement contained but little exaggeration. Yet, if we accept it as truth, our university education becomes but a crumbling though ostentatious foundation upon which to build the superstructure of a useful life. The success in life of the university men of the past has belied this assumption. The recognized worth of men of the present throws upon it the utmost discredit. And the history of university men in coming years must still more completely reject the aspersion—for the university graduate is undoubtedly the man of the future. The fact remains that in all phases of our university life, thoroughness must at all costs be zealously maintained.

If there could ever be a time when such a statement as that just quoted had any semblance of truth, there must be something radically wrong in the general make-up of our students. A lack of thoroughness in studies is often attributed to the ponderous nature of the curriculum or the multiplicity of distracting social engagements. But no student can, except in very few cases, blame anything or anyone but himself for his lack of thoroughness. Thoroughness is not corporate, it is individual. It is not infused by conditions, it is engagement by force of character. Long roads and almost insuperable mountains of difficulty cannot discourage the student, if thoroughness be the Rome of his determination. But the most absurd alleviation of the course of study, and the utmost repression of

social education in our colleges could never enforce thoroughness. If thoroughness is to be maintained, it must be maintained by the individual.

Superficialty is but the absence of thoroughness. Thoroughness provides the student with an inner strength that makes him a power in life. Superficialty coats the college man with a cheap gloss that soon serves but to show hollow vanity. A famous writer declares, "The phrase in common use as to 'the *spread* of knowledge' at this day, is no doubt true, but knowledge is spread so widely and in such thin layers that it only serves to reveal the mass of ignorance beneath. The value of knowledge to any man certainly consists not in its quantity, but mainly in the good uses to which he may apply it." To us as students comes home the pertinent assertion, "never were books more extensively read and less studied." Superficialty must needs be avoided, and to avoid superficialty is to embrace thoroughness.

Thoroughness means satisfaction. The truest value of the highest academic honors lies not in the preferment that they bestow, but in the satisfaction produced by the thoroughness that they attest. Thoroughness must bring success, for honest satisfaction is a truer criterion of success than a host of scholarships. Thoroughness must give a satisfaction of honest learning and genuine work. Some cynic has said, "The great work of some people is to rule nations, that of others is to keep out of gaol." And while our work here may not be as eminent as the one or as base as the other, thoroughness in that work cannot fail to give solid satisfaction—a satisfaction as strong and encouraging as the restless discontent produced by superficialty is insipid and disheartening. Thoroughness may mean labor, but it means a satisfaction that constitutes a bounteous reward.

Thoroughness is not only a satisfaction, it is a duty. The opportunities for developing the physical in man are great, and a lack of thoroughness in that development is a failure to fulfill a duty. The education of the mental faculties also demands a thoroughness that forms a very responsible duty. Mental powers were not bestowed as endowments of little value. The student of to-day has the opportunity for thoroughness, and his duty is to make the most of the occasion. The reward of thoroughness is indeed great, but it is only the just guerdon of a duty well fulfilled.

Many are the virtues involved in thoroughness, of these the first is, perhaps, singleness of purpose, for "duos qui sequitur lepores, neutrum capit." Of the others, decision, energy, perseverance, economy and industry are but a few. Thoroughness must make true men and they are the world's greatest need. The hope then goes out that the student of to-day may be the man whose policy is a "policy of thorough." Then will he give the most effective reply to the calumny that "in the university, thoroughness has no place."

—A. G. P.

#### REVIEW OF THE ISTHMIAN QUESTION.

Chimeras are long-lived, and their pursuit will continue to be a fruitful source of discovery while man has ideas and the will to realize them. The dream of a direct westward passage for ships from Europe to Asia led Columbus four centuries ago to the shores of a new continent, and the problem still engages the world in the form of projects to construct a ship-canal across the narrow isthmus which joins the two American continents. Spanish and Portugese explorers, following in the wake of the pioneer, industriously swept the coasts of the Isthmus, until 1536, when they had explored from Florida to Darient, they discovered that nature had omitted to furnish a waterway. The question then resolved itself into finding a practicable site for a ship-canal.

By 1551 the country had been sufficiently explored to indicate three possible localities, viz.: Nicaragua, Panama and Tehnantepec, only the first two of which have ever received serious consideration. The proposed Nicaraguan route, beginning at Greytown on the east coast, follows the San Juan river to Lake Nicaragua, and thence, via Lake Managua, to Brito on the western coast, making an entire length of about 170 miles. The distance from the lakes to the coast, which would require an entirely artificial cut, is about twelve miles, while the greatest elevation above the sea is 154 feet, several feet less than the greatest elevation of the Panama route. The climatic conditions, moreover, are more favorable for the prosecution of the work than in the case of the route farther south.

Some three hundred and fifty years ago a certain Spanish engineer proposed to the king of his country to construct a ship-canal by the Panama route, but the archbishop of Madrid intervened with the plea that if Providence had intended the Atlantic and Pacific to be joined, He would not have placed the isthmus as a barrier between them; and accordingly the king withheld his consent. Perhaps, in the light of developments up to the present, many will be inclined to say that the archbishop was right.

A few years later, however, Spain formally authorized the construction of a canal. Surveys of the country by different nations followed, and several futile attempts were made to form companies to carry on the project. Finally in 1887, a concession was secured by a French association under the famous engineer, De Lessups, for the construction of a waterway by the Panama route. Operations were begun, and continued till 1888 when the company, after spending \$300,000,000, and completing about one-third of the work, failed. The work was subsequently taken up by a new company, but it has been of a very desultory nature and little has been accomplished.

English and American interest, on the other hand, has been centered in the Nicaraguan scheme. The U.S. Government, in 1849, concluded a treaty with the State of Nicaragua by which they secured exclusive right to construct the proposed canal, in return for which they were to exercise a kind of protectorate over that country. This, they soon began to fear, would involve them in serious complications with England. The latter country, on the other hand, had for some time been exercising a kind of protectorate over the Mosquito coast of Nicaragua, and the U.S. feared that they meditated changing this protectorate to actual dominion. The suggestion was therefore made that the two countries bury their differences and co-operate in the construction and control of the canal. The result was the famous Clayton-Bulwer Treaty of 1850, in which England and the U.S. agreed jointly to

build, operate, and control the proposed canal, guaranteeing at the same time, its neutrality to all nations in times of peace and war alike. They also pledged their faith each to the other that neither of them would ever colonize, annex, fortify or attempt to exercise exclusive control over any portion of Central America.

That the treaty has not proved satisfactory and effective is shown by the fact that operations have not yet begun after the lapse of over fifty years. Agitation to alter the conditions of the contract resulted in the Hay-Pauncefote treaty which was signed in March, 1900. This does not abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, but simply amends certain sections of it. It provides for the construction by, and management of the proposed canal by the U.S., while that country guarantees its neutrality at all times, to all nations. The old stipulation of the former treaty regarding colonization of Central America is retained.

This treaty the U.S. Congress subsequently refused to ratify, their chief objection being the fact that the terms prohibited the fortification of the canal other than by an ordinary police force. The same document, with very slight alterations, is again before that body awaiting ratification. What the developments will be remains to be seen.

To discuss the results that would follow the completion of such a scheme is not the office of this article. Its relation to international politics, to military powers and to commerce is an interesting problem. It has an important bearing upon matters in the far east. It would give new importance to the West India Islands, which command the entrance to the Carribean Sea. In fact it would have a bearing more or less direct upon the interests of the five continents.

—W. H. T.

### THE PRINCE OF WALES' SCHOLARSHIP.

When His Royal Highness visited our University last October, he facetiously reminded us that his august father was an undergraduate of Toronto, and had been so ever since his admission ad eundum forty years before. He passed over in silence, however, all reference to the admirable college spirit displayed by the young Prince on that occasion, when, as all good Sophomores no doubt dofor he was and is a member of the redoubtable Second Year-he hastened to pay his respects to the Bursar, even though he had no intention of further rubbing his royal head either against our walls or our bookshelves, and left the University the richer, not by thirty odd dollars, but by two hundred pounds. It is to this generous and highly commendable action that we owe to-day the existence of the Prince of Wales' Scholarship. The story of the evolution of this scholarship throws an interesting side-light on the history of the University and on the development of the Arts' course. Through the kindness of the Registrar I am able to present the following facts in regard to it.

The sixty-third statute of the Senate, dated January 15th, 1861, dealt with the first disposition of the Prince's gift. It provided that the interest, forty-eight dollars or less, on the sum above mentioned, "shall be annually appropriated for a prize, which shall be called the 'Prince's Prize', and shall consist of an ink stand of such pattern and bearing such device as shall be determined by a committee appointed for the purpose." The prize was to be awarded to the candidate in the Fourth Year who, having taken honors in at least two departments, and first-class honors in at least one department, should obtain the

highest aggregate of marks in all the subjects prescribed for examination in the final year and on certain special papers set on work of the previous years. The table of relative values assigned to the different subjects gives us a general view of the range and character of the curriculum of that day. Greek and Latin conjointly were given 1,200 points; Mathematics, 1,250; English, 400; French, 350; German, 300; Italian, 200; Spanish, 100; Chemistry, 500; Mineralogy and Geology, 500; Natural History, 400; Meteorology, 50; Logic, Ethics, and Metaphysics, 950; Civil Polity, 300; History, 400. The whole group of the physical sciences, it will be noted, with the exclusion of physics itself, which was covered by the term Mathematics, received only a few marks more than any one of the departments of Classics, Mathematics, or Moderns. The departments of Political Science or History were only in embryo. Of Orientals there was no trace. On the other hand, the presence of Italian and Spanish in this early list is a matter of surprise and gratulation, as these languages are not found in the course for the degree of Bachelor of Arts at many universities even to-day. The attention always bestowed on them by Toronto will in part explain the high enconiums her graduates have won for her from professors in the Romance departments of Harvard and other post-graduate universities abroad.

The Prince's Prize was first awarded in 1862, the recipient being Mr. John Munro Gibson, now a well-known Presbyterian clergyman in London, England. The last Prizeman, Mr. J. D. Cameron, was a graduate of '79.

The year before that, the Senate had decided to use the revenue from the Prince's donation for the foundation of a Junior Matriculation scholarship. Unlike the prize, this was not to be awarded for general proficiency, but for excellence in two specified departments. The winner was to be preferably a first-class honor student in both Classics and Mathematics. In default of such a candidate, the scholarship was to be alloted to one "who having obtained First Class Honors in (1) Classics and Modern Languages, with History, or (2) Mathematics and Modern Languages, with History, shall have obtained the highest aggregate number of marks in (1) or in (2)." The table of relative values in this case was as follows: Greek, 220; Latin, 220; Mathematics, 440; English, 150; History and Geography, 100; French, 100; German, 75. The physical sciences had here no place at all. In the event of the Scholarship not being taken at Junior Matriculation examination, it might be awarded to the candidate, if any, at the ensuing First Year examination who should answer the same conditions as were required at matriculation. This provision is no longer continued on account of the decrease in the rate of interest on the endowment fund.

The present regulations came into effect in 1892, when the Blake scholarships were established. The Prince of Wales' Scholarship is now a reward for general proficiency, and the departments of Science and Moderns are recognized of equal importance with Classics and Mathematics in determining the merits of competitors.

It is interesting to note that the Scholarship was first awarded in the same year, 1880, that women were first admitted to the University. Owing partially, doubtless, to the smallness of their numbers and to the limited courses formerly left to them by custom and training, the ladies have only taken it once in twenty-one years. Miss Mary O'Rourke was the winner that time, and she proved her worthiness by an unusually brilliant career at Varsity afterwards. She was the last to obtain the Scholarship under the Statute of 1878.

A. E. HAMILTON.

#### SOME UNIVERSITY PESTS.

Every community has its pests. An all-wise Providence has doubtless created them for some good purpose, but like the San José scale or the Hessian fly their usefulness has never been apparent to mortal man. Our university is not exempt. No reference, gentle reader, is made to the freshmen. The butterfly must not grow supercilious over the caterpillar.

The pest is evident in all departments. Take the wings of the morning and fly to the uttermost parts of the biolog.—he meets you with a *blow*-pipe. Hie you to the secret places of the shower baths,—he enters and turns on the cold water. Tread your way through the Rotunda exulting in the receipt of an unexpected remittance,—he plants himself in your way and insists on your buying a ticket to the undergraduate parchesi tournament. He is ubiquitous, omnivorous, and not to be gainsaid.

Some day a long-suffering, pest-ridden student body will rise in its wrath and will utterly obliterate these pestilent pests. Then there will be weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth. Doting mothers will mourn and lament, but we shall be comfortable.

The library pest is one of the most unbearable and most prevalent of his kind. A favorite stunt of his is always performed when the reading room is full and everyone has settled down to work. He enters late, whistling, and marches with heavy pompous strides to the far end of the room. There he ostentatiously removes his overcoat, flings it with studied nonchalance on the table, and advances in full column on the desk. On his return he inspects several books on the central shelves, stops to speak to three or four fellow-pests, then, amidst the irate stamping of his exasperated victims, returns to his seat, voices a clever but inaudible retort to the stampers, and beams effulgently on the freshettes. By repeating this performance frequently enough and improvising any clever little side plays, a pest can attain distinction without overtaxing his mental capacity.

Another form assumed by the library pest is known as "sus librorum" and is most pestilental during the month of April and the first two weeks of May, although rare specimens of the plug variety may be noticed any time from October to June. His specialties are dictionaries and books prescribed for essays. You will see him on the dead run for the library any morning about a quarter to eight. After signing the night slips, the week slips and the day slips for a full quota for himself and any friend whose name he can use, he picks up a few dictionaries, a couple of reference books, takes a furtive glance around for anything else loose, and heaves a sigh as he settles down to ruminate on the limitations of man in the arts of appropriation. This form usually has a few cleverly hid covoys where he can secrete his treasures during lecture hours, and as the last resort he can carry a lunch in his pocket. A fairly clever pest of the genus "sus librorum" can usually manage to get his two dollars worth out of the library in the course of the year.

For other species of the library pest, such as the "goo-goo eyes," stampfeet, etc., the reader is referred to "The Confessions of a Librarian or Pests I Have Endured."—McMillan & Co., New York and Chicago.

#### THE ART OF STARTING.

The distinguishing characteristic of a sprint race is that it is run from pistol to tape at absolutely extreme pressure, therefore the ability to spring instantaneously from the mark and immediately develop full pace is most essential to success.

The average sprinting pace among runners may be reckoned as about ten yards per second, or one yard in one-tenth of a second, it is then quite clear that in races where winning is often a matter of inches it is hardly advisable to waste even a tenth of a second in moving off the mark or in getting up speed.

There are several kinds of starts practiced by sprinters but in this article where space is limited only the two most important will be considered, namely—the standing or dab start and the crouch start.

In the former the runner places his left foot flat on the ground with the toe flush with the mark. About eighteen inches back of this foot he excavates a little hole large enough to contain the toe of his shoe comfortably, and with a solid wall at the back. At the word "set" the right foot is esconsed in the hole, the weight thrown on the front leg which is bent at the knee as far as possible without raising the heel from the ground, and the body strained forward. The left arm is bent at the elbow, and points almost to the front, while the right arm is raised to a position level with the shoulder and held straight behind the body.

As long as the heel of the left foot is held down the runner is firm in spite of his forward tendency.

The moment the pistol goes off the left heel is raised, and to save the body from falling the foot is "dabbed" forward a few inches, simultaneous with the dab the rear leg is straightened out, vigorously projecting the body forward in a long running stride, and the runner is right away in full speed.

No one can start quickly unless he is straining forward to the very verge of motion. Standing on tip-toe one cannot do this without being in constant danger of over-balancing and stepping over the mark, which means being put back a yard.

The "Crouch" start or handspring, as it is sometimes called, is perhaps, all things considered, the best start for a sprinter to use. It has the advantage over other methods of giving the runner full confidence in himself to strain forward and still hold the mark for any length of time without going over. The muscles of the back help the spring of the thighs, and the runner gets into position for running quicker than where the dab start

is used.

In this start a hole is dug in the track for the front foot about five or six inches back of the mark, a second hole is made for the back foot almost directly behind the first at a distance that, when both feet are in the holes, should the runner kneel with the right leg the knee comes to the hollow of the front foot.

On the command "get on the mark," the runner puts his toes in the hole and kneels on the left knee. On the word "set" the body should be raised so that the knees are well up from the ground, the weight on the front leg and the arms, and the body strained forward against the hands, the fingers resting on the mark, thumbs pointing forward. On the report of the pistol the right leg tips the body forward so that the spring is re-

ceived almost entirely from the left leg and back, the right foot striking the ground first about four feet beyond the mark, throwing the runner into stride immediately.

The writer would strongly urge all young sprinters to try the crouch start in preference to all others, remembering that the ability to start fast can only be acquired by systematic and persistent practice.

> A. C. CALDWELL, Dundas.

#### WYCLIFFE NEWS.

"Little beginnings oftentimes have big endings," and the events of Saturday night were no exception to the truth of the old adage. A dignified junior had been calling upon friends in accord with time-honored custom. As he wandered from room to room he observed here and there bunches of freshies and sophies innocently disporting themselves in games of 'bear' and "blind-man'sbuff'. It did him good to see how tender memories still clung, and he would have passed by with good-natured condescension had not a shout of "To the Tap," rent the air as he got in the way of a play bear. The innocents, however, betrayed that they had been indulging in something stronger than milk, since they soon succeeded in overpowering the junior and andjusting his head beneath a cool and refreshing stream. Who but knows the secret of this fountain! Its waters have a miraculous effect on all who get their heads ducked beneath its stream; queer emotions of meekness and lowliness slowly steal over one, and strange to say his first impulse becomes to have his friends enjoy a similar experience. The stream refuses to flow if any novices happen to be sporting anything in the shape of a hirsute appendage, or to have that queer look we all know so well. The only alternative is to escort such to the fountain head and plunge them beneath its icy waters. Straightway they take on the form and propensities of immortals, requiring neither wine nor strong drink, as Friar Tuck will testify, and invulnerable to Cupid's darts as Smith and Wilson have learned to their sorrow. When before in the history of the world were so many initiated in one short night to the Order of The Tap and The Bath?

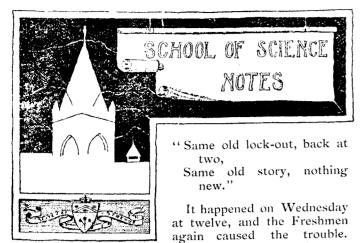
Jackson ('05) in cap and gown, on duty after the freshmen's reception: "I wish it was summah."

Several Wycliffites braved the terrors of December midnight on Saturday to attend a feed given by Pat Deroche, of the Union, in honor of the Pleasant Half-Hour Club.

A warrant is out for the arrest of him who with criminal intent did surreptiously enter and "do up" Friar Tuck's room.

#### THE DINNER.

The Annual Dinner takes place to-night in the East Hall at 7.30 o'clock; all arrangements have been completed and indications point to a most successful function. The Committee promises a menu above the average, light and entertaining speeches, and an excellent musical programme. It's not too late to decide to go. Tickets may be had to-day from either the Chairman or Secretary of the Committee, and at the door this evening.



as a pastime they were engaged in the elevating act. One victim's feet were too large to pass the gas jet, consequently, to get him back, they broke it and thereby wasted a great deal of gas. As a punishment they were deprived of the pleasure of a lecture in Descriptive Geometry. In the meantime the 2nd year were having a little enjoyment in their own peculiar and peaceable way, which so delighted "the powers that be" that they were given an hour for recreation.

While waiting for a lecture,

Remember the annual dinner at McConkey's on Friday 13th. Every loyal school man will be there to help make our only public function a success.

T—y—l—r has been enquiring very anxiously about the opening of the rinks. Query.—Is it the exercise or the company he is so anxious to enjoy?

Our Seniors are again on top in the Mulock Cup Series. The Junior Meds caught them napping in Friday's game, but they wakened up in time to save the game. Go in boys and win the cup—you can do it if you only keep yourselves in practice.

On Saturday last, a strong contingent from the second year class in Metallurgy, accompanied by Mr. Mickle, made the much-talked-of pilgrimage to Hamilton. The natives beheld the strong-lunged invaders with great fear and trembling, and unfortunately seemed to doubt the peaceful intentions of the party, in spite of repeated assurances of meekness and innocence. Especially evident was this when the horrified occupant of a belt line car saw a suspicious looking member of the party departing with a portion of the lighting fixtures and also evincing a strong desire to carry off the stove and similar trifles. Needless to say, however, the Hamilton Steel and Iron Co., and the Hamilton Bridge Works Co. were simply "tickled to death" to receive such a distinguished body of scientists, and hastened to avail themselves of the expert opinion condescendingly tendered on all sides. Accordingly, the party was given free access to the extensive works of these firms. Everybody "quizzed" everybody else in sight. The Travelling Manager, whose special car, by the way, was immensely enjoyed, couldn't assign a reason for cutting off the end of a piece of steel shafting. On propounding the weighty question, he was confidentially assured that the chief purpose in doing it was to make the piece shorter! The painting machine in the plant of the Hamilton Bridge Works Co. appealed to everyone as the one absolutely needful thing at the School. Armed with one of these long-distance decorators, terrible execution could be done among the freshies from the regions below, and no longer

would it be necessary to make those morning parades before them who sit in the seats of the mighty. On the termination of the "official" duties of the party, a scattering took place in short order. Gardner and Coulson were last seen "be-chrysanthemumed," and gleeful at the corner of James and King. "Friends in town," they explained. Wilson succumbed to a similar influence and disappeared into the darkness. Gillespie and Henderson, who earlier in the day had manifested great interest in the "wondrous creations" pictured forth on board fences and in other conspicuous places, took some of the "children" up town to show them additional masterpieces of the pictoral art. Most of the party returned by the early evening train, and great fears were expressed for some of those who were left behind, considering their well-known piratical propensities.

#### THE COLLEGE GIRL

This week and last afford two standpoints from which to view the college girl's life, viz.: receptions and examinations. What a contrast and what a gruesome idea the word examinations carries with it! But it is only term examinations, though even they are sufficiently terrifying when work is in arrears.

Last week, one of unusual gayety, saw the East Hall arrayed in festive garb for three distinct occasions; the Sophomore's reception on Monday, the Freshmen's on Thursday, and the Junior's on Saturday, causing the College girl to consider the grave question of how many receptions she could conscientiously attend. The three were very enjoyable, the committee leaving nothing to be wished for. Still the Freshmen's reception continues to be the favorite; let some one interested in psychological questions explain this mystery.

Though class-receptions have been lately a subject of much discussion, as to whether they should be continued or not, they are still well attended and much enjoyed, which should be an indication of their popularity and use.

On Tuesday night some were so fortunate as to have attended the Athletic Dance, while on Friday night there was a choice between Victoria and Knox At-Home. The Woman's Literary Society was represented at the latter by its President; some of the Faculty were also present. Hardly recognizable was Knox College; its corridors, gaily and tastefully decorated with college colors, thronged with well-pleased guests, and resounding to the music of orchestra, presented, on the whole, a scene of unusual enjoyment. After a very entertaining programme in Convocation Hall, promenading became the order of the evening, all the numerous places of interest being duly visited. The guests left at a late hour, feeling that Knox men were to be congratulated on the success of their At-Home.

And now the College girl endeavors to forget the pomps and vanities of this world and to turn her attention examination-wards; and, as she views her Christmas holidays, so near, yet, as judged from the work to be done, so far off, vainly does she repent wasted hours, and makes resolutions, destined never to be fulfilled, those sad resolutions to work in the holidays.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Y.W.C.A. held its annual Northfield meeting, and those present were much interested by the addresses given by several delegates from city colleges, viz.: Miss Lucas, B.A., of the City Association; Miss Allan, of Victoria; Miss Hoyles, of the Woman's Medical, and Miss Downing, of Varsity.

Owing to there being five Saturdays in November, there was no meeting of the Woman's Literary Society on Saturday evening.

### THE VARSITY

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Ernest R. Paterson, Editor-in-Chief, J. A. Martin, Business Manager, D. B. Gillies, Assistant Business Manager,

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### TORONTO, December 10th, 1901.

THE question of journalism at our University has been brought prominently before the minds of the students this term by the establishment of College Topics on a definite basis, as the official organ of the University of Toronto Union, and the comment and discussion on this step has made every thoughtful student conclude that a reorganization of the University press is urgently needed. The problem is generally recognized. We have three principal journals in our University: The University of Toronto Monthly, which is published by the Alumni Association and has practically no circulation among undergraduates; The Varsity, "a journal of literature, University thought and events," which, as the organ of the Literary Society, represents only University College and the School of Science; and College Topics, whose subscribers are in every faculty and federated college of the University, but which is almost entirely devoted to news. It is obvious that amalgamation is advisable, for these journals are sure to interfere with one another. In union there is strength.

The action of the Literary Society at its last meeting is a definite step in the right direction. A committee was appointed "to confer with the executive of the Alumni Association and the executive of the University of Toronto Union in order to devise some scheme looking towards the co-operation and amalgamation of the University press. When the committee submits its report at the first meeting after the holidays, the matter will doubtless be carefully discussed and some satisfactory arrangement made. The committee that was nominated to revise the constitution of The Varsity considered the question unofficially in a general way, and decided that it would be advisable to amalgamate The Varsity and College Topics, and to have a weekly journal somewhat in the present style and form of The Varsity and with the same name, but representing the whole University, and containing news from every college, to be controlled by the Union. The committee also considered that the University of Toronto Monthly should contain more literary articles and contributions from students, in order that it should be more interesting to the undergraduate body. This scheme of course involves the relinquishment of The Varsity by the Literary Society, except in so far as it would probably

appoint the University College representatives on the editorial and business boards of the new journal. This would come as a shock to many of the senior students and to most graduates, and their objections are not to be sneered at as mere sentiment. But, we think, such an arrangement would be in the best interests of the University, regarding it in every light, and the new magazine would be a great power in helping us to realize the ideal university. Perhaps a better scheme may be forthcoming. The matter deserves the most careful consideration of all students.

THE new Rugby rules under which the Mulock Cup series is being played this season, commonly yelept the "Burnside Rules," after their distinguished author and exponent, are nowadays the subject of a good deal of discussion, and it yet remains undecided whether the new is an improvement on the old. There is little doubt that the new game is more interesting and exciting from the spectator's point of view. The objectionable scrimmage is abolished; the ball is always in sight; there is more fast, open play, more running, passing, and kicking. That counts for something. But is the new game better from the player's standpoint? Opinions differ. Many of the older players who have won glory and honor in the good old game are disposed to look on the new rules with a critical eye, and though they may welcome some minor improvements, are too conservative to consent to such a radical reform. Everyone agrees that the system of "downs" is an improvement; so is the amendment of the five-yard rule. The heavy penalties for rough playing are certainly a good feature, but the first impression of the new game was certainly unfavorable,-when in the match between thy two Science teams man after man bit the dust, and two were rather seriously hurt. But from this one instance it is hardly reasonable to conclude that the new game is a rougher game, especially as in the other matches, despite the frozen ground, there have been scarcely any men injured. But there are other objections. The half-backs seem to do almost all the playing, while the forwards, particularly those in the centre of the line, do little, and, as some complain, are even prohibited from using their superfluous energy in wrestling and "scrapping" with their marks. Perhaps, however, we have not yet seen the possibilities of the new game, and we should defer our judgment till the final match is played, when both teams will have the benefit of the coaching of those who understand the rules thoroughly.

Directorate have been successful in their efforts to dissuade the Dental students from entering a separate hockey team in the O.H.A. A conference was held, and after a long discussion a satisfactory arrangement was at last made whereby all the objections of the Dental students (which we are willing to admit were more serious than we at first supposed,) were met. The Dental students, will play with the University Hockey Club and the teams will be representative of the whole University of Toronto. We consider the reconciliation, if it can thus be called, most important to the athletics and all other interests of the University.

#### THE LIT.

The meeting of the Lit. last Friday was a good one. There was a large attendance, the debate was interesting, and so was the business. Secretary Gould, as usual, set the ball rolling with his customary spiel, and gave a most graceful rendering of the minutes. The main attraction of the evening then came on, the inter-year debate between '04 and '05 on the subject: Resolved that trusts are in the best interests of the community. Overend and Coleman upheld the affirmative and the honor of the Sophomores, while Moore and Wilson of the First Year had opposite opinions. The debate was well contested and the judges had a lengthy consultation before they declared '04 the winners. While they were absent Thompson and Killmaster delighted the boys with a piano duet.

The Executive brought in a couple of recommendations which were adopted without much discussion: first, that the Lit. expend \$25 on bunting to be used for decorations at social functions, provided that the Union do likewise. A. E. Hamilton thought that the Athletic Association would not like to be left out, and his suggestion was approved. Second, that the Oratory Contest be held on Jan. 31st, and that all entries be made before Jan. 15th. *Third*, that the senior inter-year debate be held on

Jan. 24th.

T. N. Phelan reported on behalf of the Dinner Committee, describing the delights that we are to expect, and urging all to be present. A couple of appointments were made. E. W. McKenzie and W. Allison were chosen to represent Varsity at the At-Home of the Women's Medical College on the 9th, and F. A. McDiarmid was elected our delegate to the School Dinner next Friday. A motion to adjourn was made, but was unanimously defeated. The most important part of the evening's business was yet to come. E. H. Oliver moved, J. W. Cunningham seconded that the Christmas VARSITY be of a special nature, designed to advertise University education generally and Toronto University in particular, and that the Lit. expend \$50 in distributing 1,000 copies among the senior pupils of the High Schools of the Province. There was a good discussion on this motion, and finally an amendment was made by H. T. Wallace and carried,—that the University Council be communicated with in regard to the University bearing this expense.

A. E. Hamilton moved that a committee be appointed to confer with the executive of the Alumni Association and of the Union to devise some scheme for the co-operation and amalgamation of the University press. The motion was carried and the appointment of the committee

left to the Lit. executive.

J. A. Soule's motion that \$25 dollars be expended to purchase a trophy for the Inter-University Debating League provided Queen's and McGill do the same, was discussed at length. R. J. Younge suggested that some public spirited men might be found to provide a prize, and his amendment that the League be advised to procure a trophy in this way, was carried. The meeting adjourned at a late hour.

#### THE NEWS.

The Open Meeting of the Mathematical and Physical Society, on Thursday evening last, afforded an instructive and enjoyable evening to the large audience which assembled. There was present a number from the faculty, many from the Astronomical Society, together with students and their friends. The programme was varied in character. Mr. C. A. Chant, Ph. D., in his lecture on

"Diffraction and Diffraction Gratings," explained the peculiar aspect of light, and showed in what manner the gratings were useful in determining the velocity of light, and in the study of the spectra. Several models and types of gratings were used to illustrate the lecture. Mr. J. S. Plaskett, B.A., was closely followed in his discourse on "Color in Monochrome and Photography in Natural Colors," wherein he described the advantages and disadvantages of several photographic plates, and the uses of screens. This lecture was profusely illustrated with lantern slides, several views in natural colors of our Main University Building eliciting much applause. The Banjo, Mandolin and Guitar Club gave several selections and were each time recalled. Messrs. Lucas, Abbott, Klotz, Smith and Matheson also contributed to enliven the programme. The chair was occupied by Mr. A. T. DeLury, B.A., the President of the Society.

Everyone who has been connected with the Harmonic Club this year is expected to be at Park Bros. on Yonge at a quarter to two sharp. Wear, if possible, evening clothes with black tie and bring gowns sure.

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The last joint lecture of the term is to be delivered in the Chemical Amphitheatre on Monday next at 4.10 p.m. Mr. R. G. Murison will speak on "Ancient Babylonian Civilization." A large attendance is requested.

The First year held its reception on Thursday afternoon, the Juniors on Saturday. Both were very enjoyable affairs and were well attended. Glionna's orchestra on the platform, and refreshments in the Ladies' Reading Room were features of no small importance.

The meeting of the Political Science Club was well attended. Dr. Wickett was in the chair and presented the speaker of the afternoon, Mayor Howland. His subject was "Municipal Problems." He traced, in an interesting manner, the development of municipal life, and closed with a brief summary of present day questions in city government. Prof. Mavor moved a vote of thanks to the Mayor. ٠٠. ٠٠.

The Varsity Chess Club did itself proud last Thursdag by defeating the Y.M.C.A. Club by a majority of 1. The two teams meet again next Thursday evening at the Union for the second match of the series.

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#### THE MOCK PARLIAMENT.

A Mock Parliament will be the chief feature of the programme at the open meeting of the Literary Society on Friday evening, Dec. 13th, in the West Hall. The leader of the Government will be J. W. Cunningham, '02, and of the Opposition, G. F. McFarland, '02. President of the Society, Dr. W. P. Thompson, will preside as Speaker.

The Speech from the Throne includes a great many important measures which will be submitted to the House and discussed by its distinguished and honorable members, such as the extension of the Intercolonial Railway to the Georgian Bay, the deportation of bumptious freshmen, the abolition of co-education, the affiliation of Osgoode with Varsity, and the settling of Varsity girls in the North-west to raise the standard of culture. Everyone must come and bring their friends.



#### RUGBY.

'03, 13—'02, o.

How have the mighty fallen! 'o2, who as freshmen were invincible on the girdiron, winning with comparative ease "the cup that cheers but not inebriates," have been whitewashed by 'o3. However, as "Bill" Allison says (with embellishments), "the third year are not at all sportsmanlike, they ran too fast."

'02 turned out for their first practice on the campus immediately before the game, and after kicking the ball around for awhile gained courage enough to proceed to the athletic field. When they had arrived the teams lined up as follows:—

'02—Back, Symington; halves, Paterson, Stratton, McHugh; quarter, Broder; centre, McDiarmid; wings, Smith, Isbester, Ingram, Smiley, McPherson, Martin.

'03—Back, Gladney; halves, Chown, Biggs, Mc-Kinnon: quarter, Wilkie; centre, Burwash; wings, Ross, McKay, Morrison, Gabey, Wallace, Hoyles.

Referee-F. D. Woodworth.

Umpire-Arthur Wright.

Fortune stayed with '02 just long enough for Stratton to win the toss and then took her departure. For a long time the play was fast and open, with not much advantage for either team. Finally '03 worked the ball down close to the Seniors' line, and Biggs punted over. Symington tried hard to get out, but was forced to rouge. Almost immediately after the kick-off Stratton's long pass to the side was fumbled, and '03 dribbled the ball over the line. It looked like a try, but Paterson got there first and made it a rouge.

As soon as the second half opened the Juniors worked the ball down to the 'o2 25 yard line. Hoyles very cleverly intercepted another of Stratton's long passes, and ducked for the long grass behind the goal. Biggs converted, and the score stood 8—o. 'o3 again rushed the ball into 'o2 territory, and Biggs, getting away to a good start, got over for the second try which was not converted. The Seniors took a brace just here, and got right to their opponents goal, but "Tiny" Gladney got into the game and it was all off. 'o2 pressed hard again, but it was too late as time was just up. If there had been a few minutes more to play they might possibly have scored a try, a try and a half, or two trys, but as it was the game ended with the score 13—o for 'o3.

### SENIOR SCHOOL, 15-JUNIOR MEDS., 11.

The School came out on top as usual, last Friday, in their game against the Medicos, and the goddess Fortune smiled upon them with a particularly broad smile. The game was a fine exhibition of the new rules, and most interesting and exciting for both spectators and players. The play was open to an unusual degree, and the halves had lots of work to do. George Biggs, the centre-half of the sawbones, and Earle Gibson, who played the same position for the scientific gentlemen, were the bright and shining lights of their respective teams, and captained their men in good style. Baldy Campbell, Biddy McLennan, and Art Lang also did great feats for the winning teams, while Gilbert and Robb scintillated in the Medical bunch. Though there was no wind to speak of, the Meds. made all their points during the first half, and the School men made all theirs in the second half. No men were

hurt seriously, though Robb of the Meds was laid out three or four times.

During the first half the Meds had easily the best of the play. They made their first try on a fast follow-up of Biggs' kick; Gilbert converted it. Score 6—o. Soon afterwards the School goal was again in danger, but Gibson relieved by a pretty run from behind the line, and kicked almost to centre way. The Meds went at it again, however, and Biggs kicked a beautiful drop from the field. Score 11—o. The School now got in some good work, and McLennan dribbled to within two yards of the line, but Biggs relieved by a splendid kick into touch

In the second half the School seemed to waken up to a surprising degree, and played very aggressively. Gibson kicked repeatedly for good gains, and finally Lang went over for a try after a fine run. It was unconverted, and the score stood 11–5. Later McLennan secured the ball behind the goal on a follow up of Gibson's kick. With a score of 11–0 matters began to be interesting, and both teams did what their hands found to do with all their might. Finally, not many minutes before time was called, Gibson kicked over the line; Robb caught the ball, but it fell from his hands when he was tackled, and a School man embraced it and pressed it to his heart. Score 15–11.

On Monday of this week '03 plays '04. The winners meet St. Michael's on Friday. On Wednesday of next week the final game will be played.

#### ASSOCIATION.

The Inter-Year matches in Association were begun last week. These games have always called forth considerable enthusiasm, and this year particularly so, because naughty-two had never been beaten, and there was a desire abroad to blot such a good record.

The first was between Naughty-four and five. Evidently the Sophs think the Freshmen should leave everything but books alone, for they have beaten them in debate, and in both games of football. They are thus fulfilling a noble duty.

In the first half naughty-five had the wind, but could not locate the proper space, while naughty-four were lucky enough to get a penalty kick, on which Featherston scored. On the turn, however, the Sophs cooled down, and some even partook of refreshments. The Freshies, meanwhile, were coming to know each other better, and, during the remaining time gave their guardians some fearful shocks.

The Sophomore team was: Pearson, Moore, Robinson, Gilchrist, Green, Hayes, Dickson, Featherston, Andrews, Aikin, Ballard.

The second game of the series was very much better football, On paper Naughty-two could have won handily, but Naughty-three had purchased a charm and fought much stronger than expected. The game was not started till long after the appointed hour, owing to late arrivals on the 'o2 team. If confidence made them late, they had better take warning for the future. It is reported that they were so confident that some came without their heads, and some even tried to play without their legs. About the time of the lunch bell, however, the game was well under way, with Naughty-three using the advantage of the wind. There were two gaps on the seniors line-up, which Brown and Grant very nobly consented to fill, though they have not played this season. In this half the Juniors never took the ball close enough to waken Naughty-two out of its lethargy.

When the sides faced about for the last go, Naughty-two expected the wind to do the work, as well as score for them. So they began to contemplate, and grieve because they could not win the cup another year. While they were thus engaged Naughty-three concealed Grant Brown and sent him through for a score. The seniors were pulled down from their heights, and descended to hard work. After numerous attempts they found a weak spot in the defence, and, hurling all their forces on this, broke through and scored. This made the game a tie. The juniors refused to play off; so the game will be played this week, and a good contest may be expected.

The teams were as follows:

o2—Soule, McHugh, Rumball, Martin, Smilie, McPherson, Stacey, Speers, Cranston, Broder, Grant.

'03—Gaby, McEvoy, Nichol, Kerr, MacKinnon, Reid, Allan, McQueen, Brown, Delury Gladney.



Freshman (after thh '04-'05 debate): "We're out of the Rugby Series, out of the Association Series, out of the Debating Series, but just wait till we get at the freshmen next year."

If "X. Y. Z.," the proantigymnasiolater, had any heart left after the onslaught of College Topics a week ago, he must have been comforted at the "Lit." last Friday by the remarks of Mr. J. A. Soule, himself an athlete, on the relative importance of football and public speaking. The debaters we are training at the University are to go forth as leaders of the people, Mr. Soule contended in his most original and suasive manner, while the champions of the gridiron and the heroes of the grandstand will soon be relegated to the cold shades of insignificant "backnumberdom."

(At '03 Association Football match, during a dispute as to a goal)—"Jack" Younge excitedly—"Our men did perfectly right in scoring that goal. I admire their "perspicusity!" ('03 faints, the goal is allowed.)

We are glad at last to be able to report the safe return of J. P. MacGregor to the fold once more. He got back to town on Saturday and began work on Monday.

Geo. F. Kay, a well known member of the Century Class, paid Varsity a visit last week. He is at present engaged in the Geological Department of the Clergue Co. at the "Soo."

What with the '03, '04 and '05 Year Receptions, the Dental "At-Home," the Victoria Conversat, and the Knox "At-Home, there doesn't seem to have been much time for work last week! More than one of our "blushing freshettes" ate ice-cream at all these functions."

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A very delicate question was discussed at a second year psychology lecture regarding the intensity of sensation in the face. "Sensitiveness," said the lecturer, "increases from the eyes to the lips and is at its greatest at the red part of the lips. (Applause.) I would advise you all to try it-(sensation)—with the sharp point of a lead pencil.

Many Varsity people were surprised to see a "Victoria College dance" announced in the society column of one of the dailies last week! E. W. Mac-Kenzie, on the strength of this, went to the Victoria "At Home," but reports that there was no dancing at all! Mac says he walked about twenty

Sunday was "Students' Day" at the Canadian Temperance League meeting in Massey Hall. Mr. W. H. Vance, '04, was the Varsity representative, and a creditable one he made

W. O. Walker, '02, had the misfortune to have stolen from him from the cloak-room a handsome new overcoat, while he was attending the '04 Reception the other day. Such occurences are becoming too frequent around the College, and the proper authorities should take some steps to find out the guilty ones.

At the Lit.—Freddie Broadfoot rises to speak-"Mr. President -I-I-" Reggie Bell-" Come away back and sit down."

Billy Rutherford, '02, has been a regular attendant at a Parkdale church where a series of sermons is being given on the subject of "Joseph. The sermon on Joseph's prison life Billy says was very realistic.

At the Lit.—President Thompson: "I will now call upon three prominent Seniors to aid me in deciding the debate, Messrs. Oliver, Coffin and Gillies! (Gillies becomes dignified at once,)

The Mathematical Class of '02 are wondering whether F. A. McDiarmid has found the level of Huron street yet. He intends running a line from Huron street to Whitby College before Christmas.

Many undergraduates read with regret of the untimely death by drowning at Ottawa on Friday of Mr. F. A. Harper, B.A., a graduate of '95, and who has been recently associate editor of the "Labour Gazette."

R. J. Hamilton, we are informed, has transerred his allegiance from the James Street Baptist Church to the Parkdale Methodist Church. But, "nuff said," this column is not open for discussion of religious beliefs!

freshmen showed a rare faculty (?) for business in running their reception. The men of the class offered to meet all expenses, but the ladies insisted on paying their share. After all they were short on receipts.

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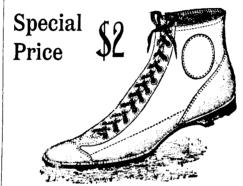
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November

30. Last day for appointment of School Auditors by Public and Separate School Trustees.

Municipal Clerk to transmit to County Inspector statement showing whether or not any county rate for Public School purposes has been placed upon Col-lector's roll against any Separate School supporter.

December

10. County Model Schools Examination begin.

Returning Officers named by resolution of Public School Board.

Last day for Public and Separate School Trustees to fix places for nomination of Trustees.

13. County Model Schools close.

14. Local assessment to be paid Separate School Trustees.

Municipal Council to pay Sec.-Treasurer of Public School Boards all sums levied and collected in township.

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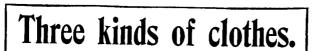
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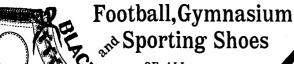
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