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THE ' VARSITY:

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF

EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY POLITICS AND EVENTS.

Vol. V.

TORONTO, November 15, 1884.

No. 4.

Editorial Notes.

By referring to our advertising columns it will be seen that Professor Proctor, F.R.S., will deliver two lectures, and in addition, Mr. Brandram, a well-known English Shakesperian reciter, will give two recitals, in Convocation Hall, under the patronage of the Literary Society. The names of these gentlemen are sufficient to ensure the high character of the entertainments.

Whatever provocation there may have been to withdraw the use of the telephone from the students, it is manifestly unwise to continue a prohibition that causes such inconvenience to them. An ordinary undergraduate will endure a great deal rather than avail himself of the present circumlocutory fashion of obtaining the use of this desired instrument. It savours too much of the schoolboy and his pedagogue.

The young women now in attendance at University College have been interviewed by the representative of a city journal. They all expressed themselves as being highly pleased with their experience thus far,—they have received invaluable assistance from the lectures, they are treated with uniform courtesy by every one connected with the institution; and have no reason to anticipate any trouble in the future. In short, from their point of view, they pronounce the new system to be an unqualified success. This does not, of course, settle the question as to the desirability of the system from other points of view; and yet it is very strong collateral evidence to that effect. It will be very gratifying to the College Council to learn that the experiment, which they long looked upon as so hazardous, has produced results so eminently satisfactory to the persons mainly interested in its success.

It has long been a heavy grievance to men of the Modern Language department that the subjects of Ethnology and Honor History should be attached to their course. This appears to have been done on the ground of some fancied connection between the latter subjects and the study of modern languages. But apart from the general relation in which everything stands to everything else, ethnology has no connection whatever with modern languages. Moreover, a large portion of the history at present prescribed in the course belongs much more properly to the Classical department, and a less portion than the remainder would suffice for the needs of a modern language department. We understand that a movement is now going on to memorialize the University Senate upon this question, and ask relief from the incubus. We shall discuss this most important question more fully in our next issue.

In a very forcible letter to the daily papers of this city Dr. Wilson, with most righteous indignation, has repelled the base

insinuations and untruthful assertions of certain anonymous individuals who are professedly friends and supporters of Trinity College. These pseudo-Christian gentlemen are strenuously endeavouring to base a plea for increased endowment of their own institution on false allegations of "godlessness" in the provincial college. There is a Pharaasaical air in the utterances of these individuals, an air of thanking the Lord that Trinity is not as other colleges are; while everybody knows that Trinity College students are not in any respect, either moral or religious, superior to those of University College. Nor, indeed, do they themselves profess to be. It is only a few bigoted and intolerant self-styled "friends" of theirs who persist in making these claims for them. The same persons do not scruple to attack their own bishop in cowardly anonymous letters, because in the spirit of his Master, participating in the recent meetings of the Inter-Collegiate Mission Alliance, he wished God-speed to the movement. Truly, Trinity College may sincerely pray to be delivered from such friends.

THE NEW MATRICULATION CURRICULUM.

That portion of the University curriculum which includes the work for junior matriculation and the first year having been printed for circulation preparatory to its final adoption by the Senate, it is no violation of propriety to express an opinion upon the various changes proposed.

There is little to be said with respect to texts in the department of classics, except that the list proposed for the next five years is an improvement on the list now in use. The work for honors at junior matriculation has been partially assimilated to the pass senior work for the same calendar years, an arrangement calculated, if not intended, to facilitate the classification of pupils in High Schools. A similar arrangement has been adopted in English, French, and German, only that, in so far as tests are concerned, the identification of honor junior with pass senior work in each year is complete. The requirements in Latin prose for pass matriculation have been very definitely specified, and sight translation, the best of all tests of a candidate's useful acquaintance with Latin and Greek, has been introduced to a greater extent than formerly. On the whole the requirements in classics will tend to improve the teaching in the schools, and this is one of the most important purposes an entrance examination can serve.

There is not much to be said of French and German beyond the fact that, while the texts seem to be more carefully chosen than before, an effort has been made to render school work more effective by the practice of writing from dictation. Those who know the difficulties under which modern language students now labor on account of their inability to speak French and German with facility will appreciate this new element in the preparatory training of future generations of undergraduates.

In mathematics the requirements are practically unchanged, but three new scientific subjects have been introduced—chemistry, botany, and natural philosophy. They have been made optional, each candidate being obliged to confine himself to one of the three. The object probably is to encourage the study of science in the secondary schools, and if this is the effect of the new departure it will be amply justified. It is to be hoped that the character of the questions set will be such that the examina-

tion will be to the teachers at once a standard to work up to, and a guide to the adoption of good methods of teaching.

There is no change to comment on in history except the attempt by means of a footnote to make English history for pass at junior matriculation include the history of the colonies. It would have been better to limit it specifically to Canada and the United States, as the history of other British colonies is of small importance at that early stage of the student's progress.

The most important changes to be noted are in the department of English, and though they do not go far enough, it is satisfactory to be able to say that they are in the right direction. In the first place, a larger amount of poetry is prescribed for junior matriculation, and the work is entirely changed each year. The selection of a single author for each calendar year will tend to keep down side-reading, and the fact that the examiner has always new ground to break will tend to keep up the standard of examinations. In the second place, a prose work has been prescribed each year as a basis for exercises in English composition. This will prove a most valuable addition to the curriculum, if only the examiners can make a straightforward use of it. The third change is the addition of a play of Shakespeare to the senior pass work. It was not creditable to the University that its pass men could go through without reading even a single English classic; the new requirement will lessen the discredit, which would be still further minimized were the selections from Milton, that are put down for honor work in the first year, made to change places with Earle's Philology of the English Tongue. The latter is an admirable treatise on the structure and history of the English language, and should be kept in its proper place, but that place is not in the pass course for the first year. Not only is there no more unsafe book to put in the hands of an indiscreet examiner, but the mere pass student of English is not in a position to profit much by the perusal of a treatise, the intelligent mastery of which presupposes a more intimate acquaintance with English literature than our secondary schools can be expected to enable candidates to obtain.

As to some other special features of the curriculum, it is proposed to discuss them more fully in subsequent issues.

THE SONNET.

Much has been said of late in Canadian journals about Canadian Literature, its prospects and possibilities. It is perhaps to be regretted that the tone of the majority of the articles has been pessimistic, though the "cherish the old, encourage the new," of one writer at least, bids us hope and work on. While it may be doubted that we are able, at present, to rear the fabric of a great and distinctive Canadian Literature, yet surely no one having any pride of country, who calmly reviews our past achievements and our present efforts, will say that the *muses* dwell not among us, or that we possess not the capabilities of far higher flights than we have yet attained.

It is quite true that we are as a nation woefully lacking in the essentials upon which the martial music of Scott, and lyrics such as Tennyson's "Idylls of the King" are created; it is true that we cannot speak of "battles, sieges, fortunes," it is true that we possess no glorious line of Kings to infuse us with "self and vain conceit," no revolutions for our Burkes and Carlyles to build reputations upon. We are therefore led to ask if these things alone are necessary in order that we may become a literary people, and the more we ponder over the matter, the more we are brought to the conclusion that if we trust to the guiding hand of nature and do with our might what that beneficial instructress finds for us to do, we shall not fail to build for ourselves a polite literature, of which we can be proud and in which we shall be able to take constant delight.

Because of the drawbacks mentioned it may be fairly maintained that the best field for Canadian talent lies in the cultivation of the higher forms of literature. It is conceivable that a Keats should arise among us to write an "Ode to Autumn." Or, since we are proud to rank among our *litterateurs* the eminent author of "Prehistoric Man," is it not possible to obtain a Lang to delight us with his "Ballade of Primitive Man?" It cannot be said that we have no sweet singers. But alas! their number is small. Let us, however, cherish what we have; let us zealously guard our literature yet in its swaddling clothes, and the day will not be dis-

tant when it will stand erect in all the glory and beauty of perfect manhood.

Coming to the more immediate object of this paper, it may be said that the Sonnet, while perhaps the most difficult, is one of the most elegant forms of poetry. Containing within its narrow compass a single thought elaborately worked out, clothed with delightful imagery, perfectly finished, yet concise and compressed into fourteen lines, it is a thing unique, a true type of all real poetry. That this is true nearly all our great poets are witnesses, from the labour they bestowed upon it and the prominence they gave to it among their compositions. Why, then, has the Sonnet received so little attention from Canadian writers? The answer need not be that only the great masters have succeeded in Sonnet writing, for not only does the Sonnet seem to be at the present time the peculiar province of writers of *vers de societe* like Austin Dobson; but Shakespeare himself, though he wrote one hundred and fifty-four, was not a true Sonneteer, for his Sonnets form two continuous narratives, and he did not, therefore, fulfil the real requirements of this form of composition.

It may surely be trusted that this most exquisite form of composition is not to lie aside neglected by Canadian poets. There is nothing sweeter than the Sonnet's voice; its cadences are like the moan of the wind, its rhythm is suggestive of the subtlest musical harmonies, and the *tout ensemble* reminds one of those curiously but beautifully wrought miniature paintings on enamel which are occasionally seen, the work of artists on the shores of the Mediterranean. Theodore Watts has presented us with the following graphic picture of the Petrarchan Sonnet:—

"Yon silvery billows breaking on the beach
Fall back in foam beneath the starshine clear,
The while my rhymes are murmuring in your ear
A restless love like that the billows teach;
For on these Sonnet waves my soul would reach
From its own depths and rest within you, dear,
As through the billowy voices yearning here
Great nature strives to find a human speech.
A Sonnet is a wave of melody:
From soundless gulfs of the impassioned soul
A billow of heart music one and whole
Flows in the "octave;" then, returning free,
Its ebbing surges in the "sestet" roll
Back to the deeps of life's tumultuous sea."

Since the time of Petrarch the Sonnet has assumed different forms, the most noted divergence being what is now called the Shaksperian Sonnet. Shakspeare arranged his Sonnet into three quatrains closed by a couplet, and in addition to this he employs a great many rhymes, generally six and sometimes eight. The objections are briefly these: This form is liable from its very nature to destroy the unity of the conception, and to require something more than can be put into fourteen lines to complete the thought. This, indeed, was the master's difficulty, and we find his Sonnets running into one another and becoming a continuous poem. The rhymes also are too many. It is a rule which applies especially to the Sonnet that the fewer the rhymes, the more musical the effect, and the longer the impression remains in the mind. This will be seen by contrasting the opening Sonnet with this one of Milton's. The former is a Shaksperian Sonnet, constructed upon six-rhyme combinations, while the latter is an almost perfect example of the Petrarchan Sonnet, and has only four rhymes. Leaving aside the intrinsic merits, the effect upon the ear is quite easily noticeable:—

"When I consider how my light is spent,
Ere half my days in this dark world and wide,
And that one talent which is death to hide
Lodged with me useless, though my soul more bent
To serve therewith my Maker, and present
My true account, lest He returning chide,
'Doth God exact day-labour, light denied?
I fondly ask. But Patience, to prevent
The murmur, soon replies, 'God doth not need
'Either man's work or his own gifts. Who best
'Bear his mild yoke, they serve him best. His state
'Is kingly: thousands at his bidding speed,
'And post o'er land and ocean without rest;
'They also serve who only stand and wait.'"

Despite the laxity in regard to rigid rules of composition in vogue among writers of the present day, it may be said that the Sonnet which best preserves its unity and its melody is one which adheres closely to the early or Petrarchian form, and for which the following rules may be given:—

1. It must consist of fourteen decasyllabic lines arranged upon rhyme-combinations.
2. The whole Sonnet must consist of two systems; the first composed of two quatrains, the second of two tercets.

3. Between the two systems there should be a well-defined pause, though not enough to break the continuity of thought.

4. The two quatrains must contain two rhymes only, of the form A B B A.

5. The rhymes in the tercets must differ from those in the quatrains, and must be so interlaced that no two lines will rhyme together. They are usually of the form C D E.

Other rules might be given. It might be said that the Sonnet must avoid epigram and expletive, and contain no line that is not teeming with all the vitality that is necessary to so short a poem. But this is obvious. No rules of construction will be of any service unless the work contain in its inner being the germ of living truth. That after all is the secret. We may plant our seed in the finest of flower-pots; we may enclose it with richest mould; we may water it and expose it to the sunlight; we may tend it for days and weeks and months; yet if there be not in the seed the germ of life, our labour will be profitless and the result failure and disappointment. If, on the other hand the life be there, the embellishments and fine accompaniment will be found to be secondary, and in some measure, at least, to take care of themselves; the plant will live and fill us with its own delicious perfume of perfect loveliness. The following antiphonic Sonnet fully expresses the power of the beauty of Sonnet-music:

PHOEBUS. What voice is this that wails above the deep?
ALCYONE. A wife's, that mourns her fate and loveless days.
PHOEBUS. What love lies buried in these water-ways?
ALCYONE. A husband's, buried to eternal sleep.
PHOEBUS. Cease, O beloved, cease to wail and weep!
ALCYONE. Wherefore?
PHOEBUS. The waters in a fiery blaze
Proclaim the godhead of my healing rays.
ALCYONE. No god can sow where Fate hath stood to weep.
PHOEBUS. Hold, wringing hands! Cease piteous tears to fall!
ALCYONE. But grief must reign and glut the passionate sea.
PHOEBUS. Thou shall forget this ocean and thy wrong,
And I will bless the dead, though past recall.
ALCYONE. What canst thou give to me or him in me?
PHOEBUS. A name in story, and a light in song!

—PRO GREGE.

JAMES EDWARD LEES.

At his residence in this city, on Tuesday, the 4th day of November instant, at the early age of 29 years, died James Edward Lees, a man distinguished by honor, integrity, and uprightness in all his life. All who knew him were his friends, and to them the only apology for writing of him that I need is that I cannot by any words of mine equal his worth. To those who know only his name, the love and loyalty he always bore to the University and College, must be my sufficient reason for speaking of his virtues here.

Born in Port Dover, in Norfolk County, on the shore of Lake Erie, he lived his childhood and school days there. In the fall of 1873, just as he was coming to Toronto to matriculate, his father's sudden death disarranged those plans and kept him at home for another year. He was able, however, before the end of the college session, to attend some of the lectures, and in May, 1874, he entered on his undergraduate course by passing the examinations at the end of the first year. Three years later he graduated, but in the middle of the May examinations the strain of the long continued labor proved too great for a constitution never very strong, and ended in an illness that lingered in his system long after the outward traces of it had disappeared.

Three years later, in August, 1880, he was called to the Bar of Ontario, and at once entered on the active practice of the profession he had chosen, forming a partnership in Brantford with B. F. Fitch, Esq.—a graduate also of our University. His business connection with Mr. Fitch continued till the first of January last, when he returned to Toronto and entered the firm, of which Mr. Charles Moss is the senior member.

On Thursday, 30th October, he was at work in the office, apparently in his usual health. On the following Thursday he was carried to the grave.

The fatal disease which seized him gave him no respite from the moment of its first sudden attack. A stronger constitution might have longer withstood its terrible violence, but in any case it must have been only a question of a few days. All that human skill could do was done—all the aid that nerve and wil-

could lend the poor sufferer had—but all was vain. Almost from the first there was no hope. It was but waiting for the coming of the end, and oh! the firmness and the bravery with which through all the long and weary woeful hours that coming end was faced. Men talk of the soldier's bravery, how with the noise of battle round him, in the blare of trumpets and the rattle of the drums he does his part, as his fellows do, in the heat and hurry of a headlong rush of men, but to me it seems as nothing compared with the bravery that I witnessed in the saddened silence of the sick-room at the bedside of my dying friend—racked with the torture of a never-resting pain—fully conscious to the very end, and knowing perfectly how with every breath he drew he was going down to death. Scarcely a moan of suffering escaped; never for an instant was there even a sign of fear or terror. At the last it was but a sinking away to sleep as his form "grew cold in the grasp of Death."

It is hard for me to write of him without seeming extravagant, especially to those who never knew him. To me he was the first and best of men—kind hearted, generous almost to a fault. I am sure he never injured any one. In our college days together—the times were stormy then in Residence, there were hot battles and hot words—no man ever took a more active part in everything that appertained to college life, no one ever was everything more thoroughly a man, but I never heard of any one who was his enemy, of any one who even bore him illwill. For many years, both before and after graduating, he and I lived together in the College Residence. No two boys, or men, were ever more intimate or more closely knit together—

"Wheresoe'er we went,
"Still we went coupled and inseparable."

During all those years I do not believe that he ever spoke a harsh word to any one. He was quick in temper, yet of so kind and loving a disposition that I am certain if any one lives whose feelings he ever hurt it must have been from some rashness or folly of mine which the chivalry of his nature made him think he should support.

But I am afraid I am already transgressing your indulgence by the length of what I have written, and I know that not by anything I can write, but only in the loving memory of those who knew him and who mourn his irreparable loss, can justice ever be done to the singular worth of his character and the virtues innumerable that adorned his life.

To speak of him at all is to think, and to think is to renew a grief that is unutterable. But I could not bear that one so noble and so good, so loving a son to his University, and so loyal and true a champion of the College Residence, should go to his grave without at least this word of remembrance. To him more than to any other one man was due the healing of the dissensions that before his day had scattered Residence men to every wind that blows. He found them disunited and disorganized; his influence and example aroused their love for the University and College, his energy and exertions awakened their dormant enthusiasm; departing he left in Residence behind him a solid body of men, compact and united, standing together in every encounter, helpful and self-reliant.

His memory among those who knew him there can never fade or perish.

"I shall not look upon his like again."

A. B. AYLESWORTH.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

To the members of the University College Literary and Scientific Society:—

GENTLEMEN,—There is one word, having said which, I would fain sit down and listen to the rest of this evening's programme. That word is thank you. I do thank you most sincerely for the honor you have conferred upon me in electing me to be your President for the ensuing year. I thank you for it because it renews old associations. If a mere visit to these halls of learning fills me with memories ever dear, how much more deeply am I touched when I find myself brought into continued intercourse with the present generation of our common University; when I

find myself entrusted with the very grave interests which my office entails. I thank you for it because it is no light honor to be placed upon a roll which numbers in its lists so many ripe and polished scholars, men of noble mind and still more noble hearts, amongst whom I am proud to be ranked last and least. I thank you for this honor because I believe you have not regarded the individual, but in me you recognize a principle. You, the students of University College, have by your choice of me as the President, the highest honor in your gift, you have given further expression to the good-will and harmony which already exist between the governing bodies of St. Michael's College and your own. You have not asked me to sacrifice one jot of my conscience, nor would I do so; but you have asked me to lend my talent *quod sentio quam sit exiguum* to the work of blending more closely portions of the community which have been long separated; in a word you have asked me to join in that interchange of thought upon literary and scientific subjects which is sure to bring in its train mutual improvement, mutual respect and mutual friendship.

For these reasons I thank you. And now I would gladly take my seat; for that word which in all courtesy should be my first to you, has by the feelings of my own heart every claim to be my last. There are times when speech is silver, and silence is golden—those moments when we know not what to say and those others which call for action and not for words. I feel that such a moment has come for me, when I can serve you and the Society better by earnest work than by rounded period and self-complacent rhetoric. Moreover I know not how

“To utter

The thoughts that arise in me.”

The past has a charm for my memory as the present for my energy.
As I stand upon this platform and view this scene,

“Old places look upon me
Old forms go trooping past.”

I am an undergraduate again, and in this hall rack my brain over the cranky, crooked, crotchety catches that are to bring me honor or leave me without a feather. Again I see a venerable form point with honest pride “to that memorial window”: and in another room I hear him pour forth in English undefiled the tale of the dying Alcestis and the trenchant sentences of Demosthenes. As there are flowers that cannot stand the open air so there are memories which will not bear public expression. Such are the recollections of my old Mathematics, its professor and its labor. There was first strengthened any mental vigor which I might possess, there was sown the seed of friendship with one who still devotes his energies to your advancement and the progress of Mathematical science, who has lately won wide-spread renown for himself and this University, one who is revered by every student passing through his hands—I mean Professor Loudon. The only souvenir of my old professor, Mr. Chairman, which I offer to you, is his epigrammatic advice to the pioneers of the Society: “Gentlemen,” said he, “when you have nothing to say, say nothing.” I regret that that advice has lost its practicality, members nowadays have to little to say. Perhaps they follow it too rigidly.

The name of Chaucer is a magic wand, calling forth associations connected with the learned President, whom I am pleased to see here to-night, who now reigns as Nestor among the third generation of professors.

τοῦκαὶ ἀπὸ γλώσσης μέλιτος γλυνίων ρέειν αἰδή.

And when I turn my thoughts to the Society of those times I find it “the same and not the same”—the same in the kindly feelings amongst its members in the self-government, careful supervision over the General Committee, and cordial respect for the head of the Society. I find now that history is repeating itself:

νυνὶ πολιτεύεσθε κατὰ συμμορίας ῥήτωρ ἡγεμῶν ἐματέρων ἡκαὶ οἱ βομσόμενοι, οἱ τριαπόσιοι.

“Now you have boards for politics. An orator is at the head of either party, and three hundred men to shout.” It was not so in the early days. Enough of by-gones. Even though I “remember the days of old,” the giants who stalked the earth then, the simplicity and earnestness of the debates—even though I remember all, I am far from looking upon that age as the Society's golden age. When I consider the crowded attendance, the advance in the various departments of the College course, I see that both in point of numbers and mental vigour the Society is far in advance of what it was then. There is within it a power which, when directed and developed, will make it what it ought to be, the greatest literary and scientific society in the land. When that power is undirected, or when it is used for personal or party purposes, when it is turned aside from the object and end of the

Society, then that very power becomes a weakness, personality takes the place of logical argument, and scholarly eloquence degenerates into stump oratory.

(To be continued.)

University News.

Y. M. C. A.

Workers in our association during past years have felt the great need of rooms devoted exclusively to our work. For eleven years the Society has eked out an existence sometimes dwindling to a few and again reviving under new forces. In 1873 the organization of the Society took place, and now interested parties predict that before the homeless institution attains the age of twelve, suitable and attractive rooms will be in their possession. Were space in the 'Varsity not so valuable, the numerous and occult advantages of such an independent existence might be more elaborately unfolded. Assuming its desirability the plan is, to construct in close proximity to University College, a building containing a hall, a reading room, and a parlor. Undoubtedly this must be a perpetual contradiction to the charges now so rampant against us, of our's being a godless College. Our influential friends in the city nod their approbation to the plan, and a widely scattered but loyal list of graduates make it evident that the scheme is not Utopian but needs only systematic arrangement and student-like zeal. On concluding his address on Thursday afternoon Mr. S. H. Blake urged immediate action in the matter and occasioned a burst in the pent-up enthusiasm of the meeting by making an offer of \$200 for the erection of the desired building.

In his address on Thursday evening Mr. Blake made the kindest of references to the feud that has arisen between students and the police. No praise was bestowed on the conduct of the representatives of “the finest” more immediately concerned. Mr. Blake, however pointed out that these disturbances late at night annoy the citizens more than the police. Invalids and working men to whom quiet sleep is of the utmost value are disturbed. We feel sure that no student who listened to Mr. Blake's words will take part in any proceeding fitted to distress citizens with whom he has no quarrel, however much he may enjoy giving a little trouble to the gentlemen in blue who adorn our street corners but who are conspicuous by their absence when there is any real work for them to do.

Our organ has been silent during the last three meetings. At the first of these meetings owing to some *organic* defect one note persisted in making itself heard, independently of the organist. At the next, the key was missing. At the third the organist failed to appear. Let this be looked after, as a very important feature of our meetings is the music. Unless it is lively and inspiring our meetings will lose much of their attractiveness and power.

This being the week of prayer, meetings have been held every night by the Y.M.C.A. On Monday evening the meeting was addressed by Mr. Schiverea of Brooklyn, N. Y., who is engaged in evangelistic work in the city. Mr. Schiverea is a disciple of Mr. Moody and has much of the earnestness and directness of the great evangelist. He spoke of the choice between the good and the bad, the worldly and the Christly, which every man has sometime to make.

On Tuesday evening Mr. G. E. Morphy led the meeting. The subject of his remarks was the incomparable condescension of Jesus Christ in submitting to shame and suffering for sinning, lost humanity. “Who being in the form of God. . . made himself of no reputation. . . and. . . humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”

On Wednesday evening was held the great meeting of the week. An enthusiastic prayer meeting was followed by a business meeting of the Association. It was decided to petition the Senate for a site for a Y.M.C.A. building, and a building committee was appointed. This is the only association in College which would dare to start such an enterprise with an empty exchequer. By faith in God and earnest work they will succeed.

The Thursday meeting was addressed by Mr. Soltau, who discussed the various methods of studying the Scriptures and gave many useful hints about the way to read a book that is notoriously ill-read even by those who study other books carefully and accurately.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

The continued popularity of the public meetings of the Society was well evinced by the large audience which last evening filled Convocation Hall. Not only as regards the audience was the meeting a success, the programme in both its musical and literary part was carried out in a way very creditable to those engaged in it, and to the Society generally.

The programme was commenced with an excellent rendition by the Glee Club of Kochat's "Rose of Woerthsee," and responded to a well-merited encore with the "Druids' Chorus" from *Norma*.

The inaugural address of the President, Rev. Father Teefy, B.A., a verbatim report of which appears in another column, followed the opening chorus. The generous applause which greeted the rev. gentleman's remarks well showed the popularity of the President-elect, and the general esteem in which he is held by the members of the Society.

Mr. M. S. Mercer read the difficult and somewhat worn selection, "Robert of Sicily," very acceptably.

The introductory portion of the programme was concluded with the quartette from the third chorus of Mendelsohn's "Antigone," by Messrs. Mercer, White, Graham and Brown, who were encored and responded with a repetition of the same.

The subject of the debate of the evening was the following resolution: "That the experience of history does not show that a permanent Senate is a beneficial check on the proceedings of a representative legislature."

Mr. J. G. Holmes led the affirmative. He referred at the outset to the widespread nature of the interest which is being taken in this question. It is ripe in England, has within the last week been decided in France, where a Senate, in existence up to a few days ago, has been done away with, and is creating considerable notice in Germany and Greece. The question is to be looked at from the stand-point of History. "One page of history," said George Washington, "is worth a thousand of prophecy." What beneficial effects does history show the Senate to have exerted on important measures? Tracing the history of the English Senate or House of Lords from the time of Henry 7th they are found as we find them to-day in England, opposed to nearly all popular measures.

Mr. H. B. Witton replied on behalf of the negative. He did not, apparently, speak with his usual fluency, and the points which he made were, to a great extent, lost upon the large majority of the audience owing to the low tone in which the speech was delivered. The principal arguments which Mr. Witton brought forward were: That, while certain cases of failure to check hasty legislation might be instanced against the Senates of different nations, still the general principle of a second Chamber was correct; because it is unwise to give the uncontrolled power into the hands of any individual, or into any one portion of the community, and because, as in the case of Canada, where there is too large and servile a majority in the Lower House, it is indispensable that some check be put upon their acts.

Mr. J. McD. Duncan followed in support of the affirmative. The Senate of the negative, according to what seemed Mr. Witton's idea, the speaker characterized as Utopian. We must take Senates as they are, not as they ought to be. The very constitution of a permanent Senate is an argument against it. How could a body of men irresponsible to the people affected by their legislation be expected to be influenced by popular sentiment? A member of Parliament owes his political existence to the attention which he pays to popular opinion. A Senator has no such check put on him. Permanent Senates have ever been a clog on the wheels of national progress.

Mr. A. Hamilton, who was the second speaker on the negative, adopted much the same line of argument as his leader. He argued that as the Commons usually adopted the amendments made by the Lords, the legislation of the Upper House was not utterly useless and without value. The fact that the constitution of the second Chamber rendered it wholly independent of sectional or party considerations, was a most powerful argument in favor of the conclusions which had been arrived at in the discussion of public questions. Mr. Hamilton concluded, stating that the restitution of the House of Lords, after its abolition by Cromwell, was a most convincing, popular verdict in favor of the retention of a second Chamber.

After concluding remarks by the leader of the affirmative, the chairman, Dr. Wilson, decided the debate in favor of the affirmative.

NATURAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

The second regular meeting of the Association was held in the School of Practical Science on Tuesday evening, 11th inst., the President, Prof. Wright, in the chair.

Owing to the continued absence of Mr. Brent, the Secretary—

who is now residing in Trinidad—the office of secretary was declared vacant.

Mr. Roche moved, seconded by Mr. Lennox, that Mr. F. T. Shutt be appointed secretary. As no further nominations were made, Mr. Shutt was declared secretary by acclamation.

The following gentlemen were nominated to act on the General Committee as 2nd year representatives: Messrs. Nesbitt, Roseburgh, Miller, Talbot.

The literary programme was then proceeded with as follows: Mr. T. P. Hall, B.A., Fellow in Chemistry, favored the Society with an experimental lecture on statical electricity. Although the apparatus at his command did not allow of a very brilliant exposition, Mr. Hall treated his subject in such a masterly and lucid manner, accompanying the explanations by a series of experiments, as to be at the same time instructive and highly interesting to those present.

After describing the properties of electricity Mr. Hall went on to explain induction and the various kinds of electrical machines now in use, the Leyden jar, and the effect of the electrical spark.

A brief discussion followed, eliciting some further remarks regarding the relationship between temperature-moisture and amount of electricity.

Mr. Lennox followed with a translation he had made from a German anatomist, Prof. Schmidt, of Stuttgart, on "The torsion of the Humerus," prefacing the paper by an explanation of the present theories regarding the development of the limbs. The paper was illustrated by diagrams drawn by Mr. Lennox.

Prof. Wright, in this connection, discussed the comparison between the fore and hind limbs, giving the hypotheses of certain German and American anatomists, and described the development of the limbs, including Gegenbaur's theory.

The subject will be continued at the next meeting by a further paper by Mr. Lennox, with practical illustrations.

The President then exhibited a fish which he had lately received from Illinois. It was a species of chologaster, allied to the blind fishes of the Mammoth Cave.

MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETY.

The semi-monthly meeting of the Society was held in one of the lecture rooms at the University on Tuesday evening, the 11th inst. Mr. A. C. McKay read an extensive paper on Simple Harmonic Motion. With an harmonograph of his own construction Mr. McKay gave accurate representations of Lissajou's curves. Physical experiments were performed by Messrs. S. K. Martin and A. C. McKay. These gentlemen gave a beautiful illustration of wave motion. Problems were solved by Messrs. J. W. Reid, B.A., J. McGeary, I. E. Martin, R. A. Thompson, and Wm. Sanderson.

MODERN LANGUAGE CLUB.

The second English meeting of the year was held on Tuesday evening, the attendance being larger than at any previous meeting. Mr. W. Houston, M.A., was called to the chair. Mr. H. J. Hamilton read his essay on the character of Hamlet, maintaining that he had no lack of courage, mental and physical, to fit him for his purpose, but wasted his time in unproductive musings. Mr. McPherson read an interesting paper on "Essay Writing," showing the chief errors into which unpractised writers are liable to fall, and the remedies for these.

Mr. Houston then gave an address on "The Study of English." He contended that the teaching of English from the public schools to the colleges was notoriously defective, and that this defect resulted in a great degree from the present course in English specified on the University curriculum. The study of English should be begun by the study of standard writers, and not of works on philology. In the University of Toronto too little importance has always been attached to the department of English. It is hoped that the new curriculum will overcome this to a large extent. Anglo-Saxon authors should be introduced in the third year and continued in the fourth; and no candidate should be allowed to graduate with first-class honors who cannot read the very earliest Anglo-Saxon writers.

At the close of the meeting a unanimous vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Houston for his able address.

THE FORUM.

On Saturday last McMillan's Hall was thronged with first and second year men eager to attend the ceremony of 'inspiring the Promethean spark in the cold ashes of the quondam Forum.'

Mr. Ferguson was chosen to superintend the proceedings, and

set about in a business-like manner to get the Society on its feet again. After explaining the nature and objects of THE FORUM, and after reading some of the more important parts of the Constitution, he called for a division, which resulted in a victory for the Conservatives, who unanimously elected him speaker *pro tem*.

Mr. M. J. Kelly, seconded by Mr. S. J. Saunders, moved that the Speech from the Throne, which had been just read, be laid on the table. The mover ably defended the Government. Mr. J. E. Jones then read a Chinese Bill which he will introduce at the next session. Notice was given that a Manhood Suffrage Bill would also be introduced.

The debate on the address then followed. It would be impossible to follow the numerous speakers, many of whom made their maiden speeches. On the division being taken, the excitement was tremendous; the Government only escaping defeat by the casting vote of the speaker.

A business meeting was subsequently held, and everyone of those present (40) declared their determination to take an active interest in the Society. It is expected that nearly double this number will join. Those who chose the hall are to be congratulated upon securing one which could scarcely be better adapted to the purposes of the Society. A conservative caucus was held this week, at which it was unanimously decided that the embryo, "John A." of the party was to be Mr. John A. Ferguson. The members of his Cabinet will be: Messrs. Hardy, Kelly, McLean, McMillan, Redden, Talbot, Boulton, Fenton, Gibson, Healy and Jones.

Q. O. R. NOTES.

The class for non-commissioned officers and recruits meets every Wednesday at four.

The 'K' Co. trophy has at last been won. Mr. F. F. Manley, who was twice victorious before this year, on Saturday last, gained final possession, by some brilliant shooting.

In the recent parade, 'K' Co. looked exceedingly well while standing to attention. The handsome faces of the new recruits won the hearts of all beholders; but of the march past let no man speak, "let's talk of—"

'VARSITY SPORT.

'Well boys, wish you luck,' were the words that last saluted the Toronto and Varsity Rugby teams as the C. P. R. train steamed out of the Union Station. The boys thus addressed, about forty in number, had secured a Pullman car to themselves and seemed bent on having a jolly time, whether the luck was with them or not. After a couple of hours spent in varied amusements our comfortable berths were found very welcome and soon the quiet of the car was unbroken, save when one of our musical members tried to perform a sonata on the kazoo and had to be suppressed. A cold dull morning saw us at Montreal, where we were met by deputations from both the McGill and Britannia clubs, and where we saw the Rugby team, from Harvard University just starting off for Ottawa. Breakfast over the morning was passed by taking a look at some of the principal sights, and shortly after two o'clock both teams were shivering on the field waiting for the game to commence. There is little use in following the match all through its course, suffice it to say that the game as played by the Montrealers was quite different from that to which we, in Toronto have been accustomed, and took the whole Varsity team, but more especially the backs, completely by surprise. Our opponents depended not so much on the weight and strength of their forwards as on their quickness, and by placing their half-backs almost on a level with the scrimmage they were enabled to be on top of our quarters and half-backs before they could either kick the ball or get fairly started for a run, so that every time the ball was kicked through the scrimmage by McGill or passed back by the Varsity, just so much ground was gained by the red and white. The Varsity forwards played the best game they have done this season, always forming up quickly in the scrimmage and shoving steadily on the ball; both the quarters played well, Thomson making some splendid dashes, while Mustard at half did most useful service, his big drop kicks calling forth great applause from the spectators. The score for McGill during the first half of the game amounted to 12 points, one goal and a try; in the second half they secured 10 more, 8 from a goal and two from a safety touch. Doubtless if our backs had not made fatal mistakes the result would have been very different; and indeed if our team had had any practice in this style of play they would have known how to meet it, but as it was, the dash of the McGill men altogether broke down our defence and so gained for them a most decisive victory. In the evening both the Toronto clubs were enter-

tained at the St. Lawrence Hall. The dinner was in every way a complete success, the bill of fare was excellent, the company large and jolly, and the speeches short. Despite our inglorious defeat the trip will long be remembered by the Varsity men as one of the pleasantest on record.

PLACE-AUX-DAMES.

Twenty American girls are studying at the University of Zurich. The average standing of the forty-eight girls in the Harvard annex is higher than that of the men in the University.

Co-education in athletics is booming in the West, where the students of Michigan University propose to have a mixed tennis tournament next spring.

The girl undergraduates in modern languages have received a cordial invitation from the Modern Language Club to attend its meetings.

"The senior ladies have issued invitations to the gentlemen of the class for a reception to be held Saturday evening Nov. 15th." So says the *University Press*, the organ of the University of Wisconsin. We have no doubt an enjoyable time will be spent. We wish —, but modesty bids us forbear!

The admission of women to the ordinary lectures in University College has been widely noticed in the United States press. One journal adds to its announcement of the fact: "and Harvard is still in the rear."

The University of Heidelberg has refused a bequest of 100,000 marks because a condition of the acceptance of the gift was the admission of women to the University.

Some time ago a Baltimore woman applied for leave to attend lectures in Johns Hopkins University in that city, and met with a refusal. She went to the University of Zurich, and has just received from that institution the degree of Ph.D. with special distinction. Switzerland is the native place of university co-education.

We understand that four young women, in addition to those already entered, will attend University College after Christmas. They are Misses Charles, of St. Catharines; Spence, of Port Perry; Knox, of St. Mary's; and Fair, of Peterborough. All are of the second year, and three are in the department of Modern Languages. Miss Spence will take Mental Science and Classics. Miss Charles is a scholar in her department.

ROTTEN ROW.

And now the Freshmen anxiously inquire when will Initiation be.

The general exclamation Tuesday at tea was: Why thus this? The steward evidently thought it was Thanksgiving Day.

Messrs. W. E. Thompson, W. B. Willoughby and D. O. Cameron visited the haunts of their undergraduate days last Wednesday. The examinations in connection with the Law Society brought them to town.

Corporal's guards have been seen around Residence rather frequently of late. The last one was put off with a pretty bald excuse.

Mr. Bleakley has lost the bronze horse, but consoles himself with a little black dog.

Mr. A. G. Smith is on the sick list at his home in Ottawa. "Chip's" many friends hope to see him back soon.

One of the Freshmen was so badly smitten by Rhea that he proposes to join the company as boot-black.

The gallant lieutenant of the 46th, now connected with the Q.O.R., was chased by a "cop" the other night for making away with a cranberry.

College News.

KNOX COLLEGE.

The scholarships offered for competition to Knox students have been awarded as follows: 3rd year,—G. Needham, J. McMaster. 2nd year,—H. E. Ross, P. McLaren. 1st year,—Andrew Carrick, J. N. Elliott.

The prayer meeting held among the University students in connection with the Y. M. C. A. is well attended.

The College was recently honored with a call from Rev. F. R. Beattie, Ph.D. and D. McGillivray, B.A., of Brantford.

Andrew Beattie, B.A. '84, is studying theology at Union Seminary, New York.

The subject at present under discussion around the fourth year table is the "transcendental aesthetic." An elucidation of some of the more abstruse problems in metaphysical inquiry may shortly be expected.

WYCLIFFE COLLEGE.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Literary Society was held on Friday night, the Vice-President, Mr. Sloggett, in the chair. A motion to make the meetings weekly instead of fortnightly, was defeated. After readings by Messrs. McCann and Owen, the remainder of the evening was devoted to impromptu speaking, the subjects of which were unknown to the speakers until they rose to address the meeting. The speakers were Messrs. Dewrose, Lynch, Daniel, Robinson, Sims, and Miller. The readings and speeches were freely criticized by Messrs. Daniel and Miles, after which the proceedings closed.

The foundation of the extension of the College building is to be commenced at once. It is hoped the new wing will be finished by May.

Top-flat gentlemen are occasionally delighted by sweet strains from guitar and flute at either end of the hall.

Prof. Neff has begun his lectures here and the students are now deep in the mysteries of *concrete conception* and *vitalised significance*.

Opinions Current and Otherwise.

One of the most melancholy features of New York life, in which very rich men fill so prominent a place, is that the newspapers are filled day by day with gossip about what they are doing on Wall-street, but we rarely meet with any account of what they are doing for art, or science, or literature or charity. Mr. Vanderbilt's splendid donation, we hope, is the beginning of a better era in this respect.—*The Nation*.

Socialism means, or wishes to mean, co-operation and community of interests, sympathy, the giving to the hands, not so large a share as to the brains, but a larger share than hitherto, in the wealth they must combine to produce—means, in short, the practical application of Christianity to life, and has in it the secret of an orderly and benign reconstruction.—*James Russell Lowell*, in "Democracy."

The coarseness, intemperance, and absolute barbarity which characterize the lives of many students (in Germany), and constitute, in some of the largest institutions, the real *esprit de corps*, cannot be fully comprehended without the opportunity for observation. The bestial rivalry in beer-drinking, the grossness of the whole life, the subordination of literary pursuits to animal pleasures, the unconcealed and unblushing licentiousness in the very sunlight of science and art, must be studied closely, if their meaning is to be estimated.—*Vienna Correspondent of N. Y. Independent*.

There is a too common opinion that a college or university which is not denominational must therefore be irreligious; but the absence of sectarian control should not be confounded with a lack of piety. A university whose officers and students are divided among many sects need no more be irreverent and irreligious than the community which in respect of diversity of creeds it resembles. A university cannot be built upon a sect, unless, indeed, it be a sect which includes the whole of the educated portion of the nation.—*President Elliot*.

The life and work of any university, so far as it approaches its own true ideal, while they will certainly have nothing to do with religious narrowness, bigotries, dogmatisms, will just as certainly not end in bare religious negativism. They will be in the long run promotive of religious wisdom, for all wisdom is of God, and tends to the knowledge of him.—*Prof. Geo. S. Morris (Johns Hopkins)*.

It is amazing the way in which that cowardly, selfish, cold, snarling bully, Thomas Carlyle, managed to bulldoze and terrify the whole intellectual world by the sheer force of coarseness and brutality. Of all the intellectual Pharisees whom the world has ever seen, there has been none so barren of generous impulse and manly purpose as Thomas Carlyle.—*Judge Tourgee in The Christian at Work*.

Poor Carlyle stripped stark and bare by cruel yet pitying criticism, he lies a spectacle for angels to weep over. What a life!

How contemptible a Timon! It is well for the world, and well for him, too, when all is done, that we should know him as he was, recognizing that the spirit which derides human progress and rejects common human sympathy is not genius, or wisdom, or even worldly shrewdness, but is sheer vanity, vexation, and gnashing of teeth.—*Robert Buchanan*.

You cannot come to love the beautiful in a day, or to understand nature utterly, after having forgotten her from your birth. You shall not rush into her temples with soiled hands and benumbed soul and be glad. She will cast you out if you attempt it. On entering the mosque at Constantinople they made me take off my shoes, bow my head and be silent, in this temple of man. How much more sacred are the temples of nature! —*Joaquin Miller*, in "*Memorie and Rime*."

Very remarkable is the way in which Coleridge has anticipated the very best thought of our time. . . . As for Mr. Matthew Arnold, the apostle of modern culture, his relation to Coleridge has been mainly that of a "conveyancer," he has conveyed thoughts and ideas, and has endeavored to convey modes of expression from the treasury of the great thinker, and has grown rich on the strength of his borrowed capital.—*The London World*.

Editor's Table.

The editor acknowledges the receipt of a letter from "Ex-K" in reference to the recently won trophy. It is held over pending an inquiry into the circumstances of the case.

It was attempted in last issue to announce that Grant Allan was about to publish a series of tales under the title of "Strange Stories." His name, however, was mangled into *Grau*.

A letter has also been received from "M" anent the Rugby Club troubles, which, owing to the press of other matter, and the recent amicable settlement of the existing differences, it has been found impossible to insert. It was by no means our intention in last week's "Sports" to throw any suspicion upon the action of the dissatisfied members of the club, which our correspondent thinks was the case.

Will Carleton is coming to the front. "It has been given to him," says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, "to impart to American poetic literature something of the native color and vigor which has been wanting in the works of other American poets. . . . The great bulk of American poetic literature bears the English impress, follows English lines of thought, and echoes English sentiment. Mr. Carleton's work does not present these leading features. His lyre is not of the loftiest, but his inspiration is essentially a home product."

The Society for Psychic Research is a unique organization, whether we consider its constitution or its objects. Its President is Prof. Henry Sidgwick, of Cambridge; its Vice-President is Lord Rayleigh, and among its members are Balfour Stewart, Edmund Gurney, and Professor Barret. The objects of the Society are (1). The influence of mind on mind, apart from ordinary modes of perception. (2). Hypnotism, mesmerism, clairvoyance. (3). A study of "sensitives." (4). Apparitions at the moment of death, and haunted houses. (5). The physical phenomena of spiritualism.

Our attention has been called to the remarkable similarity between a sentence in the opening paragraph of Morley Punshon's Essay on Macaulay and one in the recently-published University Prize Essay on "The Early Masters of the Italian School."

The sentences run as follows:—

The second picture is that of an unfortunate individual, who has to write out art-criticism upon a celebrated picture, but who finds himself . . . jammed hopelessly into the front rank of the spectators at the Academy, with the sun dazzling his eyes, and so near to the picture that he sees little upon the canvas but a vague and shapeless outline of color.—*Punshon's Macaulay*.

At one time we are jammed hopelessly into the front ranks of spectators, with the sun dazzling our eyes, and too near the pictures to see anything but a vague and shapeless outline of color.—*Prize Essay, 1884*.

To say the least, this similarity demands an explanation.

Correspondence.

THE MODERN LANGUAGE CLUB.

To the Editor of THE 'Varsity.

DEAR SIR:—Current rumours for some time past, claiming to be upheld by convincing evidences, assert that the progress of the Modern Language Club is having a tendency to decline. That such an institution should be stoutly supported and given a flourishing existence among us, all will agree; yet if marks of failure be visible, an explanation, at least in part, can easily be tendered. Of course it is quite natural that many students should find the meetings devoted to French and German somewhat unentertaining, so that only those enthusiastically desirous of a practical acquaintance with those languages, and consequently prepared to undergo, for some little time, the ordeal of witnessing proceedings not altogether intelligible, are sufficiently interested to be always at hand. However, the present curriculum renders this duty to a certain extent imperative, and it is hardly possible that a more effectual means for requiring this proficiency can be suggested. But it is certainly a matter of much surprise that the English meetings are not more universally popular. What practice should be more highly commendable or more likely to gain the participation of all students in an arts college than the assembling to discuss the character and merits of our English authors and their works? Such is the aim of this department of the society, and surely we cannot be unreasonable in supposing that among some four hundred students there is sufficient interest in the literature of our own tongue to sustain an animated and lengthy debate on every occasion. It should be observed also that this is almost the only opportunity of discussing these topics—the Literary Society having to a great extent abandoned them,—and though under the jurisdiction and forming an essential part of the Modern Language Club, these meetings seem by no means to exclude non-members. On the contrary it has been the custom to encourage the attendance of all, and an invitation to this effect has generally been extended. Certainly nothing has been omitted on the part of the officers, but we hope the appreciation and esteem of English language and literature, with the enthusiasm to promote such esteem, would manifest itself more clearly by a greater attendance at those meetings. It is a striking fact that the lecture on English lately delivered by one of our most prominent graduates could attract so very few students, although the importance of the event was clearly evinced by the presence of several members of the faculty.

J. H. N.

"CHRISTIANS, BEWARE!"

To the Editor of THE 'Varsity:

DEAR SIR:—Again the "godless" cry against University College has been raised. It seems to be an annual custom to revive this cowardly and unprovoked calumny. The day has gone by, however, when such a falsehood is provocative of anything but a smile. "Christian" is evidently, as was his namesake of the *Pilgrim's Progress* on one occasion, in a slough of despond. He apparently is one of those Christians of which the Christianity he professes would be well rid; one of those whose Christianity is bound up in his own communion, and who can see nothing good outside his own denomination.

"Can any good come out of Nazareth?" seems to be his wail. Because there was a time when the charge might have had some foundation—when King's College was rendered non-denominational and secular (if we allow the term), "Christian" thinks that by that circumstance, God, Religion, and Christianity took their departure from University College, never to return.

Some one had better wake our Rip Van Winkle—"Christian" up, or he may be asleep when the final trump sounds to awaken the dead, and to announce to the quick that the end of all things is at hand.

Our friend chose an unfortunate name for himself when he signed his letter "Christian." For, from its whole tone, and by the lamentable exhibition it afforded of bigotry and petty spite, it gave the lie to the author's subscription of himself, and violated all those principles which Christians are supposed to hold and practise.

Was it Christianlike to make charges of so serious a kind, without finding, or attempting to find out, whether or not such charges were true? Is this the way charitable Christians would act? Was it right to misrepresent—wilfully or otherwise—the character of an institution, by pretending to quote from statutes which have no existence?

Was "Christian" ever a student at University College? Does he speak from experience or from mere hearsay? We strongly suspect the latter.

Because there is no Theological Faculty in connection with the University, is it to be supposed that the institution is godless?

The authorities of University College do not object to fair and just criticism which has for its object the remedy of real grievances, the correction of methods, plans, and subjects of study and instruction, the better government of the College, and such like practical questions. But such uncharitable, false, and contemptible attacks as those of "Christian" are not to be endured in silence and calmness.

The able and conclusive reply of President Wilson, which has already appeared in the daily papers, is the very best answer that could be given to those, who, perhaps from inadequacy of information or from bias, augmented and aggravated by such reckless and untruthful statements as those of "Christian," are hostile to University College. We trust we have heard the last of such inuendos.

University College, as the head of the educational system of Ontario, proposes to give secular instruction, nothing more. It is the duty and privilege of the Church to supply religious instruction. University College never posed as a theological seminary, or as an instructor in morals. To charge it then, with failure to do what it never proposed to do is the veriest fanaticism. But though it never was required, legally, to look after the religious and moral welfare of its students, the action of the College Council in beginning the duties of the day with devotional exercises, and the inauguration and successful working of a large and enthusiastic College Y.M.C.A., show a desire on the part of the College authorities, and the students themselves, to fulfill to the utmost the moral obligations which they feel bound to see carried out. They could not do more; they certainly have not done less.

Yours, etc., ALTIORA.

Di-'Varsities.

Freshman, translating: "'Ardua deserta,' the lonely Dale."
Mr. D.: "Well, ah,—'height'?"

A young lady who lived in Toronto,
Vowed that never be kissed she did want to;
And right there and then
He gave her twice ten,
Which showed the young fellow caught on to.

"There's no 'copy,'" yelled the foreman through the speaking tube. "Well, that makes no matter," screamed the editor.

"Why was it so easy to get out last week's 'Varsity'?" asked an innocent Freshie. "Because there was plenty of 'cop-y,'" replied the editor, as he sank back in his luxuriously-upholstered arm-chair.

In our issue of Nov. 1 we printed the following original—what-shall-we-call-it: "A gentleman came into a concert hall recently, and looked anxiously around for some time. Finally he enquired of one of the occupants of the back seats: 'Can you tell me where the reserved seats are?' 'Yes,' said the other, 'Where you see no one sitting; those are the reserved seats.' The stranger took a back seat."

Since the publication of the above we have had so many enquiries as to "Where, oh where is the point; do not withhold it from us," that we have been quite at a loss to answer all those who have appealed to us for information. We have read the thing through several times, and have had it translated into all the modern languages and "done into English" again and again with the hope of strangling the joke, and thus securing the point, but it has so far eluded our quest. Fired, therefore, by the success which has attended our conundrum-asking contemporary, *Truth*, we will offer handsome rewards for the first correct solution of the mystery surrounding our—our—joke! We will publish our prize-list in our next issue.

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REV. DR. WILD,
Bond Street Church.

Subject for Sunday Evening, November the 16th, 1884 :—
"CRITICISM ON REV. C. H. SPURGEON."

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Friday Evening, Nov. 28th, His Hon. the Lieut.-Gov. presiding.
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