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Editorial Comments.



THOSE who were not able to hear the excellent inaugural address of the President of the Literary Society will be interested in the following historical sketch of the Society which appeared in the "Year-book of the University of Toronto, for the year, 1886-7"—

"This ancient and honorable Society, the parent of all others in connection with University College, was established thirty-three years ago. On the 22nd of February, 1854, in a small chamber of the present Parliament buildings, occupied by Dr. Wilson, then Professor of English Literature, now President of University College, were assembled a scant few of the undergraduates of that time. The Society owes its organization entirely to undergraduates, and amongst its founders were Adam Crooks (its first President), W. W. Baldwin, C. E. English, T. Hodgins, E. Crombie and A. McNabb, gentlemen since well known in the professional world. It may be added that the staunchest friend of the Society in its earliest days was Dr. Wilson.

"The Society, for want of a suitable place, was for a time compelled to hold its meetings in the Normal School buildings. Afterwards its members met in Professor Croft's old lecture-room. As a historian of the Society tells us, 'its home at that time, 1854, and a year later when it assembled in the old Medical School (now Moss Hall), was no scene either of substantial comfort or of fairy magnificence, but since the time when the columns of our goodly university building were fashioned in enduring strength and varied symmetry, its dwelling has been in all respects a fair part of that beautiful atom on the broad bosom of mother earth, and which, by its position between the Halls of the Academy on the one hand, and the Residence, the scenes of both cloistered study and joyful merriment, on the other, seems to indicate that the Society is a link between scholastic control and manly sociability, and that here the busy untrained intercourse of men is to be chastened into a just harmony with the quiet dignity and learned seriousness of the lecture-room.' During the session of 1854-5 the Society's Reading room was established, by Thomas Hodgins, M.A., Q.C., at that time Secretary, and afterwards President. This is one of the most important and highly prized institutions in connection with the Literary Society, and has steadily gained in character every year, having now many Canadian, American, English and European periodicals on its files.

"The Society used to grant prizes yearly for public speaking, reading, and essay writing. But in 1884 those for reading and speaking were abolished. The annual elections for officers in the Society take place on the last Friday in March, and are by ballot. At the last election over 600 ballots were cast. The membership of the

Society includes graduates and undergraduates of King's College and the University of Toronto, and students of the School of Practical Science. The number of members of the Society is now about eighteen hundred.

"The regular meetings of the Society during term are held on Friday evening. Public debates are usually held once a month. The annual conversazione of the Society takes place in February of each year, and is an event of great importance in Toronto society. The medal annually given by W. B. McMurrich, M.A., for the best essay on some scientific subject, used to be under the control of the Literary Society. It is now controlled by the Natural Science Association. The Constitution of the Society thus defines its objects, 'The encouragement of literary and scientific pursuits among its members, by discussions and essays on subjects suitable for that purpose.' No controverted point in religion or Canadian party politics is admitted for discussion in the Society. Alterations in the Constitution must be submitted to the College Council, the members of which body are *ex-officio* patrons of the Society.

"The traditions and archives of the Society amply bear out the truth of its motto as applicable to its members: '*Omnium regina rerum oratio.*'"

The recurrence this year of a second supplemental may lead some to anticipate its permanency. This expectation will not be realized. It is but a temporary expedient to nullify the evil effects wrought by sudden and important changes in the curriculum, and the Senate will not yearly grant two supplementals when the expediency of holding even one may be questioned.

Under existing circumstances we think the holding of an examination in January necessary, but we hope that the necessity will not recur at the next quinquennial revision of the course of studies. It certainly will, however, if sufficient notice—two years at least—is not given before putting into effect statutes introducing important changes in the curriculum.

Even if successful in his second "supp," the student is not in a position to make his course as successful as if the standard had not been raised high enough to cause his failure in September. With much of his time in the fall term given to the previous year's work he is likely to surpass his previous record, and failing completely be compelled to take his year over.

It is possible that the examiners cannot determine whether the standard be too high or too low until the examination is over and the results noted; being similarly situated to the shipmaster, who declared in court that a certain lighthouse was so placed that the only possible way for him to find its location was to run his vessel against it.

There are those who advocate the adoption of the Educational Department system—no supplemental, but in lieu

CANADA AND THE CANADIAN QUESTION.*

thereof a regularly constituted "court of appeal." This would have some advantages. Many undergraduates look on their promotion to a higher year, or the granting of a degree, as a matter, not of grace, but of right, and naturally hold themselves aggrieved at having no remedy when unfairly treated. That mistakes are made, and frequently, too, is suggested by the number of appeals sustained by the Department. We have no reason to believe that the University examiners are more careful or less fallible than other similar bodies.

Under the Departmental system this remedy is provided: a small fee to defray the cost is exacted, and the papers are read by men who were not themselves responsible for the possibly incorrect rating in the first place. If the appeal is sustained the deposit is returned and the candidate rests assured that he has had substantial justice.

Much dissatisfaction was expressed this fall at there being no regular method of proceeding in cases where it was felt to be an injustice to be obliged to take the year over. Such appealing as was done was altogether irregular, and in case papers were again read, no confidence could be felt in the correctness of the second report, as any change recommended by an examiner would be an admission of his previous carelessness. Under such circumstances he could scarcely be expected to approach the matter in a spirit of firmness. We do not all "do justice though the heavens fall."

The advantages of an appeal system are so manifest, and the difficulties in the way of its introduction so slight, that one might wonder why it is not already an established fact. The same could not be said of any proposal for abolishing the supplemental. True, there are English universities where nothing analogous to our supplemental exists, but the whole system of examination is so different from ours that no argument in favor of abolition could be deduced therefrom. Harder work during the college term would undoubtedly result; the knowledge that the May examination was the end-all would tend to keep noses close to the grindstone. This advantage would be offset, however, by the necessity which men, able and willing to take in the succeeding year its work proper, with the subject or subjects in which they had failed, would be under. On the whole, a combination of the supplemental and appeal would best effect the desired results.

A SONG ON THE WAY.

Wander not thither, O restless feet,
Through that fair woodland lies not your way,
Still on the highroad, mid dust and heat,
Leads your true path till the close of day.

Pluck not these flowers, O eager hands,
Leave them ungathered to bloom and glow;
Must there not blossom in other lands
Flowers whose seeds you have yet to sow?

Linger no longer, O yearning eyes,
Looking for beauty and love and light;
Do you not know the eternal skies
Garment themselves in the shadows of night?

EVELYN DURAND.

The next Classical meeting is on Dec. 8 (Tuesday), not Dec. 9, as is wrongly put in the programme.

If all that has been published recently upon the condition of Canada were collected into a sacred volume, to be made the political guide of benighted Canadians, Mr. Goldwin Smith's contribution would be unanimously accepted as the Book of Lamentations. He is the Jeremiah among those sincerely interested in Canadian affairs. For his profound and varied attainments, for his acknowledged literary ability there is the utmost respect and admiration throughout the Dominion, but that constant dissatisfaction which his writings exhibit, that continual tendency to belittle, to put the worst possible face on everything Canadian, is extremely irritating to the greater part of the reading public of Canada. It very materially lessens his influence, which might otherwise be a power in the country.

His last book is no worse in this respect than much else that he has written. He advocates commercial union with the United States, a measure which most all thinking Canadians believe would be for their country's good. But, as usual with what he advocates, most Canadians do not believe that it can be attained at present. It is the belief that the United States would not entertain the proposition, rather than any lack of faith in "commercial union," that keeps the great majority of Canadians from expressing themselves more heartily in its favor. It is not, however, his open advocacy of commercial union, nor his unavowed advocacy of political union, that is distasteful. Everyone is ready to respect his convictions upon these points. But the manner in which he advocates his views is very annoying, if not humiliating, to many Canadians. We do not object to being convinced that annexation is for our benefit, but we do object to being held up to the world as a people that must soon be starved into annexation. We are not *in extremis*.

His professed object in this book is to discuss "the Canadian Question." Before doing this, however, he affects to put the reader in possession of all the facts of Canadian history pertinent to the argument. It is in this part of his book that he makes Canada and Canadians cut so indifferent a figure. It might be difficult successfully to controvert his more important historical conclusions; but there is a lack of anything like sympathy with the struggles and difficulties in Canadian politics, which may not always have found their best solutions, but which, nevertheless, deserve honorable rather than dishonorable mention. He seems to be unconsciously controlled by a notion that Canada is a poor little place that has not sufficient intelligence to accept his advice, and thereby become happy and great. In accordance with this notion he seems to see only that part of Canadian history which feeds his misconception; and even this he relates with that disparaging, half-hidden irony of which he is such a master. This is the impression his book makes upon many of his fellow citizens. That he intends to be strictly impartial and to be of the utmost service to the country, no one doubts. He is conscientious to a fault, but, nevertheless, his book seems to many calculated to convey an unjust impression of Canada to those who do not know her as she is.

He represents the people of Quebec as an utterly unenterprising and shiftless race, without energy and without ambition; as a people who are entirely inimical to all that is British and all that is Canadian, unless it be French-Canadian. To establish this view, he quotes some words of the Prime Minister of Quebec, uttered in a moment of enthusiasm at a banquet, which was given by a French national club to do him honor upon his achieving victory at the polls. He complains bitterly that the hall on such an occasion should be profusely decorated with French flags, while only one Canadian flag was to be seen. He thinks it very significant that the Premier should declare

*"Canada and the Canadian Question." By Goldwin Smith. D.C.L. Pp. 325. Macmillan & Co., 1891.

that the victory they celebrated was a national (in the sense of French) victory. Another portentous sign is found in the fact that Sir George Cartier, a prominent French-Canadian politician, said on one occasion that the French-Canadians were much exercised over the defeat of France in the Franco-Prussian war.

That the inhabitants of Quebec have always been, are now, and are likely to continue to be French Catholics, he might have saved himself the trouble of proving, and it has long been cheap knowledge that they were not so "progressive" as their Anglo-Saxon neighbors. These, however, are not facts that should drive sensible Canadians to distraction. Under the present arrangement it makes but little difference to people in other parts of the Dominion whether the inhabitants of Quebec are French or English, Catholic or Protestant. Ontario has no right to demand that Quebec become English or that she become Protestant. Her right is to demand that Quebec should pay her honest share of the burdens of Federal government, and receive only her fair proportion of patronage and advantage from the Government. If the citizens of Quebec did this, there would be nothing alarming in the fact of their being French or of their being Catholic. If they do not bear their share of the national burdens—and I am fully convinced that they do not—the remedy is not to be found in reproaching them with being French and Catholic. The remedy is in the hands of the electors. Once any party convinces the people of the other Provinces that Quebec is getting an undue proportion of Federal money, there will go to Ottawa at the next election a majority of men pledged to the removal of the injustice. The giving of subsidies from the Dominion to the Provinces is, as Mr. Smith points out, undoubtedly a defect in our constitution. But to declare, as he seems to, that it cannot be changed, is mere childishness, and to believe that it is more difficult to change it than it would be to make an alteration of similar importance in the constitution of the United States, is to be deluded. If the Canadian people were as united in requesting the change as the American people must be before they can amend their constitution, the British Parliament would make the change at once. All that is necessary to secure any change in the constitution is a reasonable amount of unanimity among the Canadian people. The British Parliament will not hesitate to give official recognition to any such change in Canadian sentiment as is clear and pronounced. Mr. Smith himself intimates his belief that the British Parliament would pass an Act sanctioning a political union of Canada with the Republic but, in the same breath, asks us to believe that she would not amend the British North America Act!

The truth is that Ontario's political leaders, no less than Quebec's, are afraid to speak out and propose that the Provinces should support the Provincial Governments by direct taxation. "The people won't stand it" is the undercurrent of opinion one finds among Canadian politicians, French and English alike. So long as the people do not believe the change to be in their interest, no change can be made. But let us be honest about it, and instead of reproaching Quebec with being French, admit that the explanation is that the people of the Dominion are under the sway of party, and that voters think more of party victory than of good government.

Again, Mr. Smith takes occasion to suggest that French loyalty to Canada could not be relied upon in case of war with the United States, because two-sevenths of the French-Canadians are across the line; entirely forgetting the fact, which he so repeatedly makes use of elsewhere in his argument, that nearly one-fifth of the English-Canadians also are in the United States. The French-Canadians might, with almost as much reason, impeach the loyalty of English-speaking Canadians upon this score.

It is not in reference to the race problem only that Mr. Smith takes a dark view of Canadian affairs. He intimates on very insufficient grounds that in Canada there exists a

practice of "working out" or exhausting farms, and moving on to newer lands. It is doubtful if one abandoned farm can be found in Ontario. To believe that such an occurrence is common in Canada is to be mistaken.

He also has his fling at the offices of Governor-General and Lieutenant-Governor. It would be unwarranted to suppose that his estimate of the importance of these offices at all represents Canadian opinion. It has, indeed, become fashionable of late with some to say smart things at the expense of their occupants, but both the officials and the offices are generally respected by the people. Not only so, but many thinking Canadians are not at all convinced that we would improve either our officials or our system of government by electing men to these places.

The statement, again, that Canada is supporting eight constitutional monarchies is true only in the sense in which it is true that the United States are supporting forty-five constitutional monarchies. If the Provincial Government officials were too well paid we could have their salaries reduced.

It would not be just to the kindly spirit which Canadians feel towards British subjects to pass unnoticed the warning given to educated Englishman, who contemplate seeking employment in Canada. Mr. Smith thinks the individual Englishman is received with jealousy and distrust, that he does not get in Canada that even handed justice which is meted out to him in the United States. No Englishman need expect that in Canada the mere fact of being English will set him above natives who are equal to himself in ability and education, though it does make his chances for promotion as good as those of a native. Other things being equal, he will not be, as was once the case preferred before a Canadian; but he will be preferred before all others except Canadians. To expect more than this is only to affect superiority, which is always offensive. The very fact which Mr. Smith relates—that three Englishmen have been appointed to chairs in the University of Toronto within about a decade—is sufficient to overthrow his argument. Which of the great American universities have appointed three Englishmen to their most important and lucrative positions in that time?

In discussing the "Canadian Question" as a matter of practical politics, Mr. Smith has offered nothing new in either argument or information, but all the facts that have been heretofore adduced by various writers and speakers in favor of closer commercial and political relations with the United States are marshalled with his usual skill and acknowledged ability. The humiliation of being a dependency is noticed, and made responsible for the lack of national spirit among Canadians. The difficulties in the way of independence are considered and not deemed insurmountable although great. And the glorious future that Canada might enjoy as a part of the great Republic is set forth. He declares that there is no natural trade between the Provinces; that their natural markets are to the south, and that the fiscal policies of both Canada and the United States, which keep the two countries from trade, are the result of blundering or boodling.

The book is full of entertaining and useful information. To Americans, Australians, Englishmen and Canadians desiring a picture of Canadian social and political life it will be valuable. It must, however, be taken *cum grano*. Attention has been called to a few of the positions taken up by the author in which very many Canadians would not concur, and of much else in the book, it might be said in Mr. Smith's own phrase, "readers had better inquire." He has presented a view of Canadian life and politics for the purpose of advancing a political movement, and in reading the book this fact must never be forgotten. His book must not be mistaken for history. It is a clever piece of pamphleteering, executed with great literary ability, but it is not—and perhaps was not intended to be—a valuable contribution to political science or Canadian history.—
JOHN M. McEVoy, in the *Annals of the American Academy* for November.

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DECEMBER 1. 1891.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY.



THE Society held its first public meeting of the year in School of Science Hall on Friday evening last, and, judging from the large attendance there, the open meetings are in no way declining in the popular estimation.

According to the time honored custom, the students, *i.e.*, such as were not accompanied by female companions, occupied the seats in the rear of the Hall, and, by occasional mutterings loud enough to be heard, indicated that they took a lively interest in the proceedings.

Sir Daniel Wilson, who had kindly consented to take the chair, opened the meeting by calling upon the Glee Club for a chorus, which was so well rendered as to elicit an encore.

The President then delivered the inaugural address, which was, in essence, a history of the Society since its foundation. He carried his hearers back to the time when the Society held its first meeting in the old Government building in February 22, 1854. A constitution was then adopted, the speaker said, which, notwithstanding the many attacks made upon it, is, in its fundamental provisions, the constitution of the Society to-day. The speaker then proceeded to show that the objects of the Society were co-extensive with University education. It represented the active side of college life, and in fact was

a reflex at what our life would be when we were called to the great world of business concerns. He criticized very severely the political corruption which reigns at our centres of Government, and condemned in forcible language the standard of morality of the country which permits us to remain inactive while speculation to fraud is being practised under the cloak of justice. He concluded a very spirited address by calling upon the students to assert their manhood, and strive to liberate their country from her political servitude.

Mr. J. W. Graham gave a recitation entitled "Lasca," which was rendered with good effect.

After the Glee Club had favored the meeting with another chorus the debate followed. The proposition for discussion was Resolved,—“That the Action of the State should be confined to Life and Property.”

Mr. McMurchy, the first speaker for the affirmative, said there were certain functions which a Government should perform, and if she did not limit herself to these that we would have a very imperfect administration. He cited some instances to show that Government interference in matters which were more individual than public was attended with very pernicious results. He contended that life and property was the legitimate sphere of Government control, and interference by the State in matters which did not directly or indirectly relate to life and property was a violation of her duty. Government, he said, was but an agent of the State, and the State was an aggregation of individuals, hence he concluded that inasmuch as the individual knew what was best for himself, he was the proper person to say what the Government should be. He maintained that the individual should be free and unhampered by excessive interference by the Government, for it was only in this way that we could ever hope to develop an independent manhood.

Mr. Tennant, the leader of the negative, replied in a well-sustained argument. He said that principles should be discussed and not isolated instances brought forward. The leader of the affirmative had adduced instances in which Government interference had failed, still that did not show that as a principle the action of the State should be confined strictly to life and property. If they were just discussing particular instances, he thought that if he could show that in any one case the State had interfered with beneficial results in a matter which did not relate to life and property, that it was all he was called upon to do. The affirmative took it for granted, he said, that men retained all their natural rights in society, but this was not so since there were natural rights which the individual had to forego when he entered society. He urged that while the individual was, perhaps, better able to determine what was best for himself, he was not in the best position to say what measures were adequate to meet the wants of society as a whole.

Society was in a progressive state, and in consequence new wants were created; it was, therefore, the duty of the State to legislate to meet those wants. Throughout his speech Mr. Tennant treated the subject historically, showing that by the timely interference of the State at critical junctures the social fabric had been conserved.

At this stage of the proceedings the enthusiasm in the back of the hall had reached a fever heat, and it was with much difficulty that the remaining speakers were able to make themselves heard. Mr. Bull, speaking for the affirmative, said that State interference in private matters destroyed the independence of man. He cited as an instance the Poor Laws which had been passed in the reign of Elizabeth, whereby men were enabled to stop work and live upon the bounty of the State.

He said that society was more of a manufacture than a growth, as had been contended by the leader of the negative, and that the individual, by being left to determine for himself upon matters that appertained to private life, would develop into a more perfect man.

Mr. Horne followed on the negative. He thought that

the affirmative had rested their argument on the false assumption that every individual knew what was the best for himself, and that all men were equal. He maintained that there were cases where men were sadly deficient in the knowledge necessary for their improvement. He said that there was a vast difference in men, social and moral, and that the only way to adjust those differences was to give the State an unlimited control.

Mr. McMurchy closed the debate in an eloquent reply. He stated that the evils in society to day were the result of the State's interference with the individual's right, and not because the State had not interfered enough as contended by the negative. He asked what would the ideal man be like if his character was to be formed by the State and not left to himself to develop.

The chairman in giving his decision said that the subject had been discussed with equal ability on both sides, but since he believed that the negative had the more just side of the argument he accordingly would give his decision to the negative.

The residence orchestra gave a selection, which was so well done that the agreeable penalty was an encore. The prizes won at the cross-country run were then presented by Sir Daniel Wilson. Mr. Orton, who was first on the course this year, was awarded the championship of the College.

After singing the National Anthem the meeting dispersed.

THE SATURDAY LECTURE.

Professor Chapman, on Saturday afternoon last, expounded to a large audience, in University Hall, "The Earth's Rock History."

After a lucid explanation of some points, the understanding of which was essential to what followed, he gave a necessarily brief and interesting synopsis of the earth's rock-recorded history.

Rock formations are commonly divided into stratified and unstratified. The origin of the former, and its enclosure of the elements which afterwards unfold the earth's story, was illustrated from personal recollections. These rocks, as exposed naturally in river beds, etc., and in many ways artificially—e.g., in railway cuttings and mines—reveal to man the fact that almost innumerable species of organic life existed in former epochs upon this planet, which have long since become extinct. Amongst the many examples of these forms cited were the invertebrate—Orthoceras, Nautilus, Ammonite and Baculite. These, once so numerous, are now, with the exception of two species of Nautilus, entirely extinct. Mention also was made of the huge fossil reptiles—Ichthyosaurus, Plesiosaurus and Pterodactyl—intermediate on the one hand with fishes, and on the other with birds; and also of the enormous mammalia—Mastodonta and Magathera—the latter representing the now insignificant sloths and ant-eaters. Prof. Chapman's quotation from "In Memoriam" incited much applause.

The rock-formations are by geologists unanimously divided into five periods. The earliest of these—the Archæan age—is devoid of preserved organic remains, although certain authorities (amongst whom Sir J. W. Dawson) claim for Eozoon Canadensis an organic origin. This period—comprising deposits of mica, gneiss, hornblende, etc., and enclosing within it many of the world's economic minerals—is in Ontario and Quebec thirty thousand feet in thickness.

The second or Palæozoic age ushers in the lowest forms of life, whilst its later formations teem with marine plants, invertebrate animals and the first vertebrates in the form of heterocereal Ganoidei. Slates, sandstones, limestones, etc., comprise the Palæozoic strata. To this period also the coals of Nova Scotia and elsewhere date their origin, having been formed by the deposition of Lepidodendrons, etc.

The Mesozoic or third age includes huge reptile re-

mains (e.g., Archyopteryx), birds and coniferous plants, which last form the coal beds of British Columbia.

In the Cainozoic age, mammalia and the higher plants reigned supreme; but not until the Audrozoic or last age did man make his appearance upon the scene, the seeking for indications of whom involves the province of the archeologist.

In closing, the lecturer described the glacial period, citing proofs of its occurrence, and enumerating various theories as to its cause.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The medical students are shaking hands with themselves over the success of their fifth annual banquet, which was held on Nov. 26th at the Rossin House. Each year the aim is to eclipse, if possible, all former records, and this year the efforts were not put forth in vain. There were present about 250, comfortably filling the *salle à manger* of the Rossin House, which was decorated in a suitable and picturesque manner. The *menu* was of such a character as would call forth the praise of experienced epicures, while the card itself was productive of many admiring comments. On the right of the chairman were Vice-Chancellor Mulock, Rev. Dr. Dewart, Mr. W. S. Lee, Dr. U. Ogden and Dr. Clark. On the left were Dean Aikins, Rev. Dr. Caven, Dr. Richardson, Rev. Dr. Wild and Professor R. Ramsay Wright. Others observed at the table of honor were Dr. W. W. Ogden, Dr. Oldright, Dr. O. H. Wright, Dr. Thistle, Dr. O'Reilly, Prof. John Caven, Mr. George Dickson, Mr. Torrington and Drs. H. W. Aikins, McPhedran, Ferguson, Ellis, Avison, Peters, McFarlane, Fère, A. B. McCallum, Primrose, W. Caven, Starr, Boyd, Third, Fotheringham, Barnhart and Temple. The secretary, Mr. H. J. Way, read letters of regret from many other distinguished gentlemen unable to attend, some being drawn to the counter-attraction in the presence of Sir Edwin Arnold.

When full justice to the viands had been done, Mr. C. McCoy, the energetic chairman, delivered a few remarks, chiefly of a congratulatory character. His references to our connection with Toronto University were received with as much enthusiasm as his references to the proposition of the Medical Council to hold but one examination annually, and that in the fall, were with tokens of unmistakable displeasure. On his resuming his seat three rousing cheers evidenced the esteem in which he is held by his fellow-students.

The following sentiments were duly toasted: "The Queen," received with all honor and the National Anthem; "Toronto University," coupled with the names of Vice-Chancellor Mulock, Rev. Dr. Caven and Rev. Dr. Dewart; "The Faculty," proposed by 1st Vice-Pres. H. T. McKendrick, in a witty and well-chosen speech, eliciting responses from Dean Aikins and Dr. Richardson. H. A. Wardell proposed "Other Professions," and Rev. Dr. Wild replied in a witty but practical speech. "Toronto General Hospital," proposed by H. J. Way, was dealt with by W. S. Lee, chairman of Hospital Board, and Medical Superintendent Dr. O'Reilly. "Graduates and Graduating Class," by the Vice-Pres., elicited replies from Dr. Britton, Dr. Boyd and G. W. Gould. Dr. Britton scored well when he thought if sufficient stress were laid upon the matter, and steps taken in the right direction, the Council would amend, if not rescind entirely, its motions *re* the change in examinations. Dr. Boyd showed his ability to throw off professional demeanor and be still one of the boys. Mr. Gould did his class credit. He briefly reviewed the past three years, with its never-to-be-forgotten scenes, advocated the advisability of a permanent class secretary, and advised all to strive hard for the degree "Good Name," only to be taken from the great university of the world. Mr. C. W. Taylor's toast to "Under-Graduates of Sister Institutions" evoked replies from the following gentlemen on behalf of their respective institutions: F. W. Lang, McGill; T. B. Smillie, Bishops'; W. H. Bourns, Queen's; F. Fenton, Trinity;

Mr. McGuffin, Western; Mr. Kogan, Pharmacy; Mr. Woodruffe, Osgoode Hall; Mr. McLean, Toronto University Arts. 2nd Vice-Pres. McLenahan proposed "The Ladies," whose cause was championed in reply by Mr. C. E. Smyth. The next toast, "The Freshmen," looked upon by many late arrivals as the principal feature of the evening, was ably dealt with by Mr. Curry. After toasting the chairman, and giving three cheers for Dr. Fèrè, the Hon. Pres., the meeting sorryfully came to a close.

Napolitano's orchestra and the Medical Glee Club discoursed sweet strains of music at intervals during the evening.

On Saturday the dissecting room was closed to students to allow the workmen an opportunity of putting in the electric light, of which the incandescent variety is to be used. This will prove a great convenience, as heretofore the lack of lighting apparatus has compelled hard working and persistent students to desist from work an hour earlier than the rules require.

OBITUARY.

CHARLES WESLEY WEBB, B.A.

The news of the death of Mr. C. W. Webb, B.A., which occurred Nov. 11, 1891, caused great surprise and profound sorrow among his brother students in the Medical Faculty. The deceased was born in Colborne, and, after receiving his preliminary education in the public and high schools of that village, took a course in Victoria College, and graduated in Arts in 1882. Being in rather delicate health, he went to Australia and lived in Melbourne about six years. On his return to Canada in 1889 he decided to study medicine in the University of Toronto, and commenced his course in the fall of that year. In his second session his friends noticed that his health was failing, but could not induce him to take a holiday. He suffered from marked nervous prostration in the summer, and in October was seized with inflammation of the brain, which caused his death at the age of 31. Messrs. R. H. Green and W. E. Olmsted were chosen by the students as their representatives at the funeral, which took place at Colborne, November 13.

THE AGNES KNOX RECITAL.

Miss Agnes Knox will give a recital in Association Hall on Friday, Dec. 4th, under the auspices of the University Y. M. C. A. Sir Daniel Wilson will occupy the chair, and the orchestra of the University College Glee Club will furnish music during the evening. Miss Knox leaves Toronto immediately after this for a tour in the Lower Provinces, and to fill engagements in other parts of this country and in New York; and early next year she sails for England in response to an invitation to give recitals in that country. This, then, may be the last opportunity afforded the people of Toronto of hearing Miss Knox for many months.

Those who remember the time when Miss Knox made her first appearance at a public recital given under the auspices of the University Y. M. C. A., in the March of '88—those who remember the kind words with which Sir Daniel Wilson introduced the young undergraduate elocutionist—may well be pardoned for claiming for the University a part, at least, of Miss Knox's dramatic talent. But genius such as Miss Knox's cannot be made the subject of a claim—it can only be acknowledged, and it has been as fully acknowledged by the towns of Ontario, and by the public press from Winnipeg to Vancouver, as it has been by us. But we can and do claim a special interest in Miss Knox herself and in the certainty of her success.

'ARRY, B.A.

I'm nuts on the 'Varsity lay,
And I've recently took my degree;
When yer 'ear about 'Arry, B.A.,
Yer'll please to remember it's me;
For the times is remarkably changed,
Never mind 'ow old fogies may scoff,
The kerrickerlum's bin rearranged,
And those bloomin' old classics is hoff.

It was also uncommonly kind,
O' them young mathematical dons,
To declare as they never could find
Any practical use in the PONS.
So from Euclid to-day we are free,
And we've only to show we can keep
Double entry, and do rule o' three,
Which is letting us down pretty cheap.

As 'istory didn't count much,
I let the hold subject go 'ang;
Modern languages I couldn't touch,
But I did a good paper on slang.
In racing I passed like a bird,
I even got honors in dress,
But in music, at least so I've 'eard,
I was not a decided success.

All thanks to them excellent pals,
To Butler, to Foster & Co.,
As 'ave done elevating the gals,
And are givin' the people a show.
Now I've letters tacked on to my name
(Though I'm bust if I know what they mean),
I'll 'elp 'em to play the old game,
And "demockeratize the machine."

Yer may tork about culture and style,
But are Latin and Greek any use?
Oh my blood's nearly ready to bile
When yer plead sich a rotten excuse.
'Oo cares for the Beautiful now?
It's the Useful alone as'll pay,
So I'm 'appy to make yer my bow
As 'Arry, the newest B.A.

—*St. James' Gazette.*

"UNIVERSITY EXTENSION."

To the Editor of THE VARSITY:

SIR,—As the tone of your editorial remarks in THE VARSITY of Nov. 24th are hostile to the object for which the "Canadian Association for the Extension of University Teaching" has been organized, I hope you will allow me an opportunity of justifying the motives and methods of its promoters.

Some part of your dislike of the scheme seems to be due to the use of the term "University" in the above title, and in my opinion there is a certain amount of force in your contention on this point. The chief objection to dropping the term is that it has been employed for twenty years, with the official sanction of Oxford, Cambridge, and London Universities, in precisely the sense in which it is here used. No practical difficulty has ever arisen in England on this account, and it is hard to find any better name. Can you suggest one? I may add that the name has been argumentatively defended by Dr. Moulton and other prominent "Extension" workers in good University standing in England; that it has been adopted by the "American Society for the Extension of University Teaching," which has on its council a large number of the most prominent University men in the United States and Canada; that it has been embodied by the New York

State Legislature in a statute which entrusts the management of "Extension" work to the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York; and that it has been prominently inserted in the announcements of the University of Chicago by President Harper, who is himself one of the best known University men in America, and who has made "Extension" work one of the three great departments of the University's operations. In view of the wide spread and long-continued use of the term "University Extension" among University men, its adoption by the promoters of the Canadian movement looking to the higher education of those who cannot attend any University may be surely condoned.

It is not denied, in THE VARSITY article or elsewhere, that the University Extension experiment has been in England a great success. You say, indeed, that it has there "failed to reach the laboring classes which it set out to benefit," but your statement is misleading in each of its parts. Speaking from a wide acquaintance with the literature of the Extension movement, I have no hesitation in saying (1) that it was not started with the special purpose of benefiting the laboring classes, and (2) that it has not failed to benefit them. The latest account that I have seen of the work done in England is the pamphlet lately issued by Dr. Roberts, secretary of the "London Society for the Extension of University Teaching," who has done more for the movement and knows more about its results than any other person, and his report shows conclusively that Extension work is popular with workingmen, many of whom make great personal sacrifices to share in its benefits. True, they cannot afford to pay much for the privilege, but they may henceforth be able to enjoy it at less cost to themselves in view of the partial endowment of the movement out of the liquor license compensation fund. And in connection with this fund permit me to point out that your statement respecting it is misleading. Heretofore no "Government funds" of any kind or from any source have been available in support of the scheme. It has achieved its phenomenal success without such support, and possibly the new endowment may prove a barrier rather than a help.

You make much of the difference between the people of England and the people of Canada in respect of opportunities for acquiring a University education, and I do not allege that you are overstating the case. University education is cheaper here than it is there, and I think it is relatively also more influential in diffusing culture among the people. But that proves nothing in the way of showing that the work of "University Extension" is not just as necessary here as it is there. The question is not whether the proportion of people not reached by University influences is as large here as it is in England, but whether there is here any large mass of the community who would like to enjoy the higher culture but cannot go to a University for the purpose. This is a simple question of fact about which each must form his own opinion. You will at least admit that I have had good opportunities of getting at the truth in the matter, and I am quite confident that we have in abundance in Canada earnest men and women who cannot possibly attend a University, but strongly desire to take systematic courses in literature, history, politics, philosophy, science, and art. Whether they are willing to pay liberally enough to get what they want can be determined only by experiment, but do not condemn the experiment as "farcical." The motives of those who are making it are, at all events, disinterested. Theirs will be a labor of love, for they cannot expect any adequate remuneration.

As to scarcity of teachers, about which much was said at the recent conference, it is useless to indulge in predictions either way. If the demand arises the supply will be forthcoming. Fortunately it will not be necessary to depend on the Universities for that supply when it is wanted. In England a body of teachers, some of them more eminent in their special lines than any that fill Uni-

versity chairs, has been developed, and we have outside of the Universities in Canada many who are just as skilful in the work of imparting instruction as those engaged in academical work. The number may be indefinitely increased as the demand for their services grows.

Your remark about mechanics' institutes serves, at least, this useful purpose, that it enables me to call attention to an immense advantage which Extension workers in Ontario have to start with. We have not only mechanics' institutes, but municipal free libraries, and we have a large number of Young Men's Christian Associations. It will, no doubt, be the policy of the Association to utilize these institutions as "local centres." Why not? Work has for some years been carried on in connection with them, and all that remains for the Association to do is to encourage that work by granting it such recognition as is afforded by applying an examination test, and granting a certificate based on the result.

WM. HOUSTON.

Toronto, Nov. 28, 1891.

[In our editorial on University Extension we distinctly expressed ourselves as being in entire sympathy with the objects for which "The Canadian Association for the Extension of University Teaching" was formed, and we cannot explain Mr. Houston's misapprehension of our position. It may be found necessary to return to the subject at some time in the future.—ED.]

Mr. Arthur H. Sinclair, of the Political Science Class of '90, has contributed a useful article to the October number of the *Quarterly Journal of Economics* on the Toronto Street Railway. In it will be found a concise and interesting historical account of street railways in this city. One learns that the Street Railway was introduced here in 1861; that a Company was granted a practical monopoly of the concern for thirty years; that the Company agreed to keep the street in repair between the rails and for eighteen inches beyond the rails on each side; to pay the city \$5 for each car in operation together with ordinary taxes; and that the city reserved to themselves the right to assume the plant of the Street Railway at an arbitration valuation in the year 1891. There is a careful and impartial statement of how this arrangement worked. The difficulties that arose are noted though any attempt at theorizing about them is carefully avoided. A short account is given of the arbitration which decided what amount the city should pay for the plant when they assumed it this summer. The city retained the management of the road only a few months when it was handed over to a new Company. The conditions on which the new Company obtained the monopoly are more advantageous to the city. Among these were provisions stipulating that the city must keep the road-bed in repair for which the Company are required to pay \$800 per mile; that the Company shall heat their cars; that they shall not require their servants to work more than ten hours a day; that no Sunday cars shall be run without a plebescite; that tickets shall be five cents each, six for twenty-five cents, and twenty-five for one dollar; and in addition to this the Company are required to supply tickets for use between 5.30 a.m. and 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. at eight for twenty-five cents, with school children's tickets at ten for twenty-five cents. It is a creditable piece of work and reflects credit on the author, who has already written acceptably on the general subject of municipal monopolies.

Lippincott's for December has a decidedly Southern flavor. The novel, "A Fair Blockade Breaker," by T. C. DeLeon, presents a series of brilliant pictures of fair women and brave men who, in spite of fate, are happy ever after in the good old style. Articles on Negro superstitions and literature in the South since the war maintain the Southern tone which is rendered a harmony by the introduction of a "poor white" sketch, called "A Mac-casin among the Hobbys."

'MIDST THE MORTAR BOARDS.

There will be a meeting of the directors of THE VARSITY on Wednesday afternoon at four o'clock at THE VARSITY office.

F. Lillie has been all summer at Woods Hall, the Marine Biological Laboratory, U. S., now Fellow at Clark, Germany.

The Glee Club put on its combination music and oyster throat, Thursday last, and went to the Church of the Disciple. *Satis superque dixi.*

The Y. W. C. A. had a more than usually interesting meeting last week. The subject was "Prayer," and was treated by Miss Fleming and Miss Robertson.

B. Kilbourn, B.A., '92, Medical Editor of VARSITY, is at present suffering from a very severe attack of enteric fever. His class will be much pleased to see him again in their midst.

Rev. Dr. Kellogg addressed the Y. M. C. A. meeting on Thursday last on "The Development of Christ's Teaching." The meeting next Thursday will be addressed by Messrs. Harvey and Gibson, of the O. A. C., Guelph.

All are agreed that those men who persisted in screwing their mouths into elliptical shape at the Public Debate, and making the cheep of a sick jay bird, should have been quietly led out behind the building and strongly caressed with a spade.

The students participated in a very exciting election on Friday in sending their representative to McGill. Messrs. Bruce and Middlebro, two of the most popular students, were nominated, and the election resulted in favor of Mr. Middlebro by a small majority.

Philosophers of '94 held their first regular meeting on Saturday last. Papers were read on "Natural Consciousness," "Relation of Consciousness to the Nervous System," and "Consciousness and Unconsciousness," by Messrs. Muldrew, Dickie and Burton. The Society promises to grow and flourish.

We had a nice report of the meeting of the Political Science Society of '94, but Messrs. McGuigan and James failed to put in an appearance to uphold the inductive side, so we have to retract the complimentary things we said about them. Messrs. Lamb and Sissons were there, however, and did their part nobly. Prof. Ashley presided.

On Tuesday the Political Science Club of '93 reorganized, and though beginning work late in the term will doubtless meet with that success which characterized the meetings last year. The following were elected:

Hon. Pres., Prof. Ashley; Pres., J. D. Phillips; Vice-Pres., Miss M. Johnson; Sec.-Treas., H. E. Sampson; Councillors, G. S. Faircloth and L. A. Moore.

The usual weekly meeting of the Economic Seminary was held on Thursday morning. It opened with an abstract of the last paper by S. C. Wood, the reporter. Mr. C. J. Bethune then read a very excellent paper on "The American Tariff," followed by Mr. McCrone, the critic. Prof. Ashby summed up with some very practical remarks on the merits and defects of a Protective System.

The Modern Language Club held its regular meeting on Monday last, with a good attendance. Mr. H. W. Brown read a paper in English on "Edmond About." Miss Withrow gave a very acceptable piano solo. An essay on "L'Homme à L'Oreille Cassée," was read by F. B. R. Hellems. French conversation, made profitable and pleasant by the liberal attendance of lectures, closed the programme.

The class of '95 met on Nov. 26th to discuss the "Dinner-Conversazione" question. In our own opinion they did it very fairly and coolly, and we should be highly pleased to wade into the man who wrote the garbled account of it for the *Globe*, but the man who runs this shooting match, in other words the Editor-in-Chief, has put a veto on it, not because he has any opinion on the subject, but just to prevent war and famine. We are allowed to say that they favored the *Conversazione*.

The Baptists of this city received an unexpected and possibly unorthodox accession to their number Wednesday evening, when a member of the University Glee Club was immersed in one of the city churches. The proceeding was highly irregular; no notice had been given of his intention, and it is doubtful if he will be considered a member in full-standing until the ceremony has been repeated with due formalities. So far he has not signed the church roll and the matter is in abeyance.

The intelligent compositor got in his work on our column last week. Our valued friend, Mr. G. R. Fasken, was labelled as G. R. Fasker, and sent to Gordon, instead of to London. His special point of attack, however, was that invaluable Gallic manuscript of ours, and how he did chisel grim-faced destruction through it. Miss B., instead of MSS. B, does not involve a very great change of type, but it involves an amazing change of meaning. However, the writer does not write copper-plate, so to speak.

In the words of Euripides there is decayed fruit in Denmark. Notices of goods lost, strayed, stolen, or gone

for a drink, are thicker than VARSITY editors. We have read on the boards fond expressions of regret for "a gold letter 'W,'" "three apples," "a cane," "four luncheons of hapless lecture-crammed youths," "an overcoat," "an Italian work on mathematics," in short, for everything except the boiler down stairs, and no telling when it will go. Where is that famous ille the Argus-eyed?

The Classical Association held its first open meeting on Tuesday last, in the Y. M. C. A. Prof. Hutton read an interesting paper on the "Homeric Problem." The subject was one naturally of decided interest to classical students, and the happy way in which it was handled procured it a good reception. Mr. Fairclough's address was on the "Love of Nature in Greek Poetry, as exemplified in Euripides." Mr. Fairclough had evidently been unsparing of time and work in the preparation of his treatise, which involved a lot of original research. He maintained that while the Greeks thought that the "Proper study of mankind was man," they did not fail to grasp the marvellous beauties displayed in the world about them as was shown by numerous examples he had collected to support his views. Both the speakers were compelled to cut their papers for lack of time to the extreme regret of all present, but this will no doubt be remedied for the future by the officers of the Association. On the whole the Association has had a very satisfactory career with every prospect for growth in the future.

Regulation College Gowns made for \$6.50. All orders to be taken to J. J. Heffernan, '95.

J. A. MILLS
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