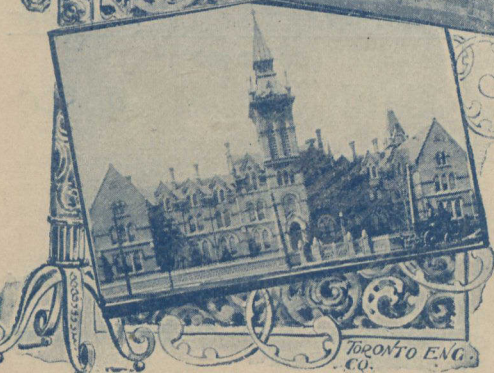
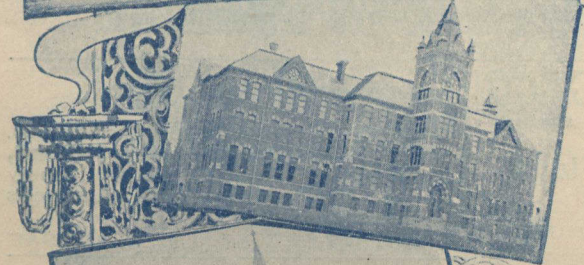
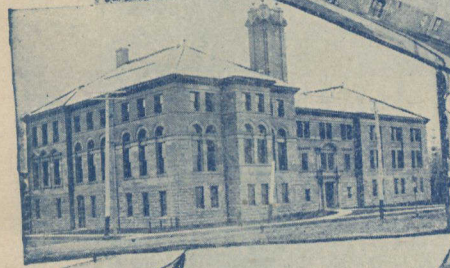
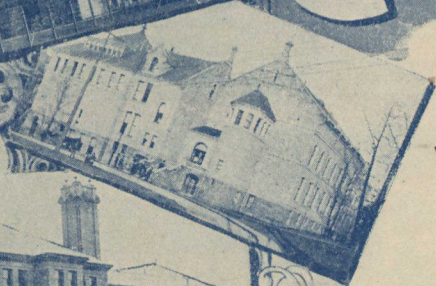
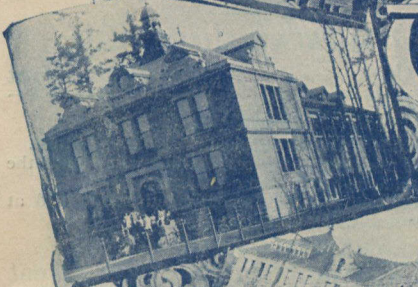
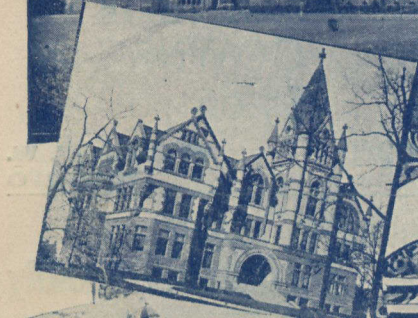


McNair V H



# THE VARSITY

VOL. XIX.

No. 8

University of Toronto.

TORONTO, DECEMBER 6th, 1899

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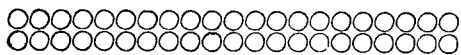
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# THE VARSITY

A Weekly Journal of Literature, University Thought and Events.

VOL. XIX.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, DECEMBER 6, 1899.

No. 8

## SOCIAL IDEALS IN ENGLISH LETTERS.

### II.

IN fulfilment of my last week's promise I submit, more in detail, a review of the two chapters of Scudder's book previously referred to. A few extracts from the chapter dealing with the age of Swift will give some idea of the subject matter and its treatment.

"Approaching the 18th century from the centuries that lie behind it, a modern man feels for a time singularly at home in its literature. As he roams through its pleasant and neatly ordered ways, he meets people much like himself, neither heroic beings like the men of the 16th century, nor grave, if slightly grotesque, Puritans, but cultivated, easy, well-bred men and women with interests often very similar to our own. . . . Yet below all this outward likeness the reader soon becomes aware of an inalienable difference, separating that literature from our own; and in time this sense so grows upon him that he comes to feel the 18th century, with its easy superficial modernness, more remote from ourselves in essential spirit in real attitude, than the middle ages or the Renaissance. Carlyle could clasp hands more readily with Langland than with Addison; Matthew Arnold would be quite at ease on meeting Moore in fields Elysian, but even his elasticity would be taxed to find common ground with the 18th century wit or the 18th century divine. The modes of thought in the reign of Queen Anne and of the Georges are further from the modern democracy than any logic line can reach."

Such a chasm between 18th and 19th century thought is remarkable, and needs explanation. This the author proceeds to give in his discussion of its significance, commenting therein on the main tendencies of 18th century literature, and its function. The religion of this age had much to do with the character of the literature, and in speaking of the former Scudder says: "It is extremely difficult to understand the religion of the 18th century, or would be, if so much of the same type did not linger among us. . . . The church had become a vast machine, for the patronage of morality and the promotion of her own officers; those officers speak repeatedly with a candor unmistakable and refreshing, compared to the evasions not unknown to-day. How admirable an investment is religion! Such is the burden of their pleading. Sure gauge of respectability here and comfort hereafter! To turn over the pages of their sermons is to feel the Sermon on the Mount receding into infinite space. . . ."

"It would be wrong to disparage the kindly common sense and entire sincerity of 18th century religion; but one may be excused for finding in it few reminiscences of the Gospels. The perplexity of the honest 18th century divines, wrestling with the Sermon on the Mount, is entertaining and instructive." Then follows a quotation from Clarke's sermons which concludes by summing up our social duty thus: "Only to retrench our vain and foolish expenses; not to sell all and give to the poor, but to be charitable out of the superfluity of our plenty; not to lay down our lives or even the comfortable enjoyments of life, *et anal.*" These are the reassuring exhortations of 18th century divinity.

Notwithstanding this apparently comfortable and easy philosophy it is to be noted that nearly every one of the great writers of the period was overshadowed by, or succumbed to, some form of mental disease; nowhere have we a sadder example of this than in the life of the great Swift.

The author sketches briefly the fierce and melancholy life of the Dean, and adds: "It is a sorrowful history. Yet the essential sadness of Swift's life lay deeper than personal experience. It was interwoven with the conditions of his age. He knew his times intimately and long; the little world of the great, the great world of the humble, the statesman's palace, and the peasant's hut. He was a profoundly sensitive man, yet he was also matter-of-fact. His honest recognition of things as they were was mitigated by no intervening haze of romance, and no spiritual revelation of distant hopes. He was no mystic, like Langland, visited by visions of consolation; no philosopher like Moore, able to escape the sordid present by weaving speculative schemes. He took life as he found it, with savage sincerity; he saw it steadily and saw it whole, if ever a realist can attain such vision; and he saw it as unrelieved tragedy. . . ."

This is followed by some considerations of the cynical, satirical character of the age, and of its significance. "Satire untouched by wrath or sorrow, satire acquiescent and flippant and amused at itself, satire unburdened by the sense of outrage and of pain, is the most tragic thing in the world." The nature of Swift's satire, sparkling with the cold, snapping light of contempt and hatred, is exemplified by quotation from an extraordinary little skit on 'Polite Conversation.' Commenting on this the author adds: "This nonsense is entertaining enough; but Swift does not write it because he is amused; he writes it because he is disgusted. Never was frivolity recorded with such painstaking scorn. The trivial dialogue is redolent of pure vacuity. . . ."

Swift's political satires are next dealt with, and then the author goes on to consider his social work. "There is probably no social pamphlet in existence which leaves the reader so breathless with horror, so impelled to flee from civilization, like Christian from the City of Destruction, as Swift's 'Modest Proposal for Preventing the Children of the Poor in Ireland from being Burdensome, and for Making them Beneficial?'" This pamphlet was inspired by Ireland, where he watched the increasing wretchedness of the land with fierce and mournful gloom. Even yet the reader is scorched by the steady, colorless flame of the "Modest Proposal." Space forbids quotation here, but the pamphlet is memorable. "Whether Swift looked at society, at politics, or at the wider world of Irish life, his mind was visited by no ray of cheer or hope. He saw in society an utter absence of all ideal aims; in politics, a scramble of personal ambition and intrigue; in the life of the poor, a natural, inevitable, and irremediable tragedy. . . ."

After analysing "Gulliver's Travels," the great popular work of Swift, Scudder concludes: "Few stranger paradoxes are to be found in literary history than this of our greatest pessimist and cynic tranquilly pursuing the

priestly functions of the religion of hope and love. But the paradox of Swift was the paradox of his age; Augustan literature had lost the social with the spiritual outlook. It dreamed no dream of progress, it lifted the banner of no ideal. It despised while it depicted humanity. It was content to analyse its own present, with scorn that turned to jest or sob, according to its mood. Perhaps no phase of civilisation has ever been more deeply imbued with the conviction of its own finality. No trouble stirred it, nor was it seemingly visited by compunction, save when occasionally, of a sudden, some great soul like Swift fell into fatal despair."

As the reader turns from Swift to Ruskin it is like emerging suddenly from some dreary and chilling scene of Arctic desolation, where the ghastly, frozen bones of once active men lie stretched in grim, sad equality, into a region of summer beauty and verdure, where the myriad voices of Nature murmur hope and inspiration, and the voice of man sounds near and helpful and loving. And though, by a strange fatality, the last years of John Ruskin are, as were those of Swift, shrouded in gloom, yet the two men are essentially different, a difference which is mainly a product of their times and environments. In Swift's writings we see a potentially noble nature all turned to bitterness and waste, while in Ruskin there is that warm vitality which betokens life, enthusiasm and noble purpose. Swift is cynically depressing, Ruskin is uplifting and inspiring. It is therefore to be expected that in Scudder's chapter "What to do, according to Ruskin," we shall find propositions of a very different nature from Swift's "Modest Proposal."

The first thing to note in the social aspect of Ruskin's thought is that the constructive factor is marked and well sustained. To some, indeed, it seems too positive, finding vent in so-called Utopian vagaries. In fact Ruskin's social writings have been practically ignored hitherto by reason of their very boldness and novelty, and their author has been accused of the arrogance and over-ready assumptions of a spoiled man of genius. That there is occasional truth in such strictures may be granted; nevertheless he is being appreciated more and more every year.

Ruskin was not merely a political economist, nor was he a mere dreamer; he discovered a distinctly new field of social ethics. "He discerned that new conditions always demand the evolution of a new morality; and he pricked the lagging moral sense to keep up with the unfolding phenomena of a mercantile age." Ruskin saw clearly that no form of human activity can remain permanently immoral. "He insisted sternly that the most automatic actions of our 'business' life hold a moral factor and imply a moral ideal; and that the application of the Christian law to modern industrial society is a task which Christian folk cannot escape."

In application of these principles Ruskin made himself obnoxious to the generation of 1860 by dismissing as an *unreal* and unpleasant figment the so-called "economic man," and substituting therefor a something which had brains and heart as well as hands and stomach. He proclaimed the supreme importance, in the aim of civilization, of the production and maintenance of *men*. Witness the following from his *Essays*: "It is open to serious question, which I leave to the reader's pondering, whether, among national manufactures, that of souls of a good quality may not at last turn out a quite leadingly lucrative one?" And, "There is no Wealth but Life; life, including all its powers of love, of joy, and of admiration. That country is the richest which nourishes the greatest number of noble and happy human beings; that man is richest who, having perfected the functions of his own life to the utmost, has also the widest helpful influence, both personal and by means of his possessions, over the lives of others."

Ruskin did not stop with the proclamation of these principles in a generalized form, but went on to apply them to the industrial life he met around him. One can find this matter admirably treated in his *Essays*. Why is it, he asks in "The Roots of Honour," that in common thought an atmosphere of heroism clings about the soldier, doctor, clergyman, and none about the merchant. The answer is that the merchant is supposed to, and in general does, put the gaining of money above social service. The soldier's unselfish devotion to the service of his country rightfully demands our respect. At the present day, however, enemies of a more insidious character than our brothers over the sea are undermining our national strength, and there is a faintly recognized call for true soldiers, neither traitors nor cowards. Ruskin proceeds to indicate along what lines modern society calls for martyrdom. There is absolutely no more reason for an employer's trying to escape ruin at the expense of his employees and customers, than for an army officer to desert his men in the crisis of battle.

Thus far has been considered more particularly what might be termed Ruskin's Ethics of Production, *i.e.* the relationship of "Captains of Industry" to the national well-being, and their duties and privileges. Another phase of Ruskin's work is discussed by Mr. Scudder, *viz.*: The Ethics of Consumption. "There is another aspect in which all men are involved in the present industrial distress, and responsible for it: we are all consumers." Ruskin contends that in the presence of poverty the indulgence in luxury is criminal, and can only be enjoyed by the ignorant. Commenting on this Scudder says: "More than once he disposes briefly and pungently of the time-honored fallacy that the purchase and encouragement of luxuries relieves economic distress, and in some mysterious way is an act of social virtue." And a little farther on: "This plea for the abstention from luxury sounds strangely on the lips of the prophet of the aesthetic revival, who had done more than any one man to awaken the craving for beauty among his countrymen. Yet even Ruskin's early work, with its impassioned and manifold efforts to bring the world's loveliness into contact with men's souls, had at heart a profound longing for simplicity, a conviction that we are meant to find our joy, our peace, not in the elaboration of apparatus, but in the contemplation of nature."

Though an advocate of simplicity of life Ruskin wisely leaves it with each individual to decide for himself as to where he should draw the dividing line. He recognises that there is a point where simplicity cripples life instead of ministering to it. *He only wishes that every individual shall decide intelligently, with a clear knowledge of the cost and meaning of every action.* These principles he applies in a general way in "The Mystery of Life." "*Whatever our station in life may be, at this crisis those of us who mean to fulfill our duty ought, first, to live on as little as we can, and secondly, to do all the wholesome work for it we can, and to spend all we can spare in doing all the sure good we can.*" This implies, according to Ruskin, good national housekeeping on the large scale, and on the smaller scale many activities illustrated in his own life, such as, for example, his efforts to promote tenement house reform. His conception of Political Economy is well described by the phrase "national housekeeping," for he considered that the mere investigation of existing facts in trade and industry, and the co-ordination of these, was, of itself and in itself, utterly barren.

The most vital factors in Ruskin's teaching in so far as it affects the individual are the extension of the moral consciousness into all relations of production and consumption, the simplification of life in the abandonment of material luxury (at least for the present), and active devotion to some form of social service. His teaching as

relating particularly to the State can be found scattered throughout his works, especially in "Unto This Last" and "Munera Pulveris."

It is both astonishing and instructive to note the storm of opposition which these social and political teachings of Ruskin aroused from the England of 1860. However, in the last fifteen years a remarkable change has taken place, and now even severe political economists may be found quoting his opinions with respect. But alas! it is too late to make any apology for the neglect or scorn with which these opinions were first greeted, for Ruskin's sensitive nature, overstrained by contact with the forces of materialism and selfishness, turned to the deepest gloom; and to-day the poor, disconsolate old man, with the light of his soul gone out, waits for his release.

W. C. GOOD, '00.

Nov. 25, 1899.

[We should like to have printed Mr. Good's article last week, but could not owing to lack of space.—ED. VARSITY.]

### MR. GARVEY REPLIES.

*To the Editor of the VARSITY:*

In last week's edition of the VARSITY there appeared a reply by one of our young lady undergraduates to a letter written by me and published in your issue of the 22nd ult., and as the writer has misunderstood me in several particulars, and, moreover, as she makes statements with which I do not agree, I shall have to ask your permission, Mr. Editor, to say a few words in reply.

My fair critic says in her article that I advocated debarring honor students from competition for the benefit of the General Course. I fail to see how she can draw such an inference from my words. It is true I did say that I thought that it ought to be made obligatory on all candidates for the Banker's Scholarship to take the work as specified for first year Political Science students; but this is far from advocating a policy which would make students of the General Course only eligible. My fair critic seems to be under the impression that the work of the first year Political Science and that of the first year General Course is identical; but in this she is mistaken. If she will turn to page 107 of the Calendar (1899 edition), she will find that Political Science students have honor work in their first year, which General Course students do not. To say, therefore, that candidates for the Scholarship should take the work specified for First Year Political Science men is not debarring honor students from competing, or giving an unfair advantage to General Course students. It is simply placing both on a footing of perfect equality.

In my own letter of the 15th ult., I asserted that often the candidates for, and the winners of, the Scholarship were students who merely studied up the work for the mere purpose of writing for the Scholarship. The writer of last week's letter does not deny the truth of this. Indeed, she virtually admits that that was the motive which prompted her—(from which my readers can draw their own inference). She goes on, however, and asserts that the same motive prompts all Political Science candidates. This, I think, is not true. The majority, I am sure, in studying for the examination, are actuated, not by a mere desire to obtain the Scholarship, but rather to obtain a liberal education. My fair critic is a student in Honor Mathematics. Does she mean to tell me that she studies her honor subjects in which she is specialising only under the pressure exerted by examinations and awards? If so, she does not understand the true value of a university education. However, I am sure that she will not readily

admit that she is prompted by such a low motive, and I think it uncharitable for her to attribute to others in a different department motives by which she would not acknowledge herself to be actuated in her own.

The analogy which the writer of last week tries to show exists between the Banker's Scholarship and the Frederick Wyld prize in English seems to me one that is not true. It is, of course, true that the latter prize is open for competition among the students of the third and fourth years; but as the students in nearly all the departments have got to take English for at least two, and in some cases, three years, it will be seen that the prize must, in the very nature of things, encourage the study of English among all alike. There is no good reason, therefore, why it should be restricted to the students in Moderns. On the other hand, under the present system of awarding it, the Banker's Scholarship does not assist those who intend to make a life study of Political Science, and the extent (magnitude) of the encouragement given to those who study the prescribed work for the mere purpose of writing for it may be represented by the differential coefficient of zero. If the mode of awarding the Banker's Scholarship gave as good results as that of awarding the Frederick Wyld prize, it would be, perhaps, not so objectionable. Unfortunately that is not the case, and that is why I advocate a change.

The writer of last week's letter is evidently laboring under the impression that the male undergraduates are indignant because two young ladies have won the Scholarship two years in succession. Let me tell her that her impression is false. Throughout my course I have never heard any of my fellow students express themselves in terms of indignation at the honors won by the girl students. I am sure all are only too pleased to see the girl students obtain the scholarships when such are fairly won. I think, therefore, my critic's accusation unfair and uncalled for.

Yours sincerely,

Univ. Coll., Dec. 1st, 1899.

CHARLES GARVEY.

### Y.W.C.A. NOTES.

For more than a year there has been an Intercollegiate Conference in connection with the various colleges for women in the city. The purpose of the Conference is the furtherance of intercollegiate relationships; it is very desirable that there be a strong feeling of sisterhood among college women, not only in Canada but throughout the world.

Last Saturday afternoon the Conference had a pleasant meeting in Mrs. Hoyle's parlours, when an opportunity was given the women present to meet Miss Ross, B.A., travelling secretary of the S. V. M.

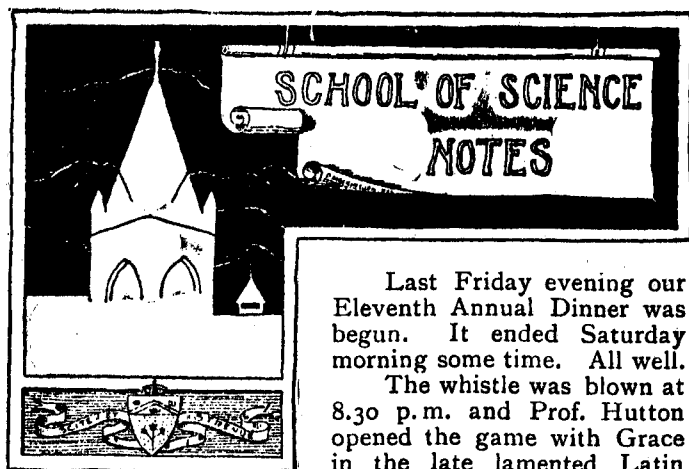
The following colleges and schools were represented: University College, Victoria, McMaster, Trinity, the Women's Medical, the Presbyterian Ladies' College, Moulton, Havergal Hall, Episcopal Deaconess' Home, Parkdale and Jarvis Collegiate Institutes.

Among the other ladies present were Mesdames Loudon, Fletcher, McCurdy, Cameron, Fraser.

Short addresses were given by Miss Ross, Miss W. Macdonald, and Miss E. M. Fleming.

After the meeting tea was served. Much gratitude is due Mrs. Hoyle and the other ladies who have manifested such a kind interest in the work of the Conference throughout.

Many of the members of Dr. Tracy's Bible Class spent a very pleasant evening last Saturday at the informal reception given by Dr. Smale in the Y.M.C.A. parlors to his own and Dr. Tracy's class.



Last Friday evening our Eleventh Annual Dinner was begun. It ended Saturday morning some time. All well.

The whistle was blown at 8.30 p.m. and Prof. Hutton opened the game with Grace in the late lamented Latin language. Then the opposing

forces met with clang of knives and crunching bones (of oysters). After "eating up" the other team, according to touch-line advice, our President and Chairman, Mr. Thomas Shanks, scored a toast to "The Queen" at which there was no protest but that of loyalty. Then Mr. Neelands got over for a toast to "Canada and the Empire," which Dr. Coleman and Mr. Stewart ably converted. Mr. Wright here made a good play at quarter, passing the "Legislature" out to Messrs. Millar and Southworth who landed a safety-touch. On the Captain giving the signal "University of Toronto" Mr. Lorne Allan made a good pass to Prof. Hutton, who by brilliant play secured a drop over goal. A Fa(c)ulty play by Mr. Hare was well covered by Prof. Galbraith, followed by Dr. Ellis, making the score 21—so the doctor says.

After half time some old time passing was indulged in. The signal, "The Profession," found the ball in the hands of Mr. J. A. Johnson, who passed across to Mr. Chipman, Mr. Wickson and Dr. Bryce. But it was called back on account of a forward (look into the future) and Mr. Thorold got it out of scrim to the "Sister Institutions." It was then that Mr. Revell, supported by Messrs. Burnside and Jackson made the tackle of the night, bringing down "Athletics." This was followed by some grandstand play (to the "Ladies") by Messrs. Chubbuck and Douglas. Mr. Duff and Mr. Roaf followed up well on a jolly drop to the "Graduates and Graduating Class" by Mr. Bertram. Mr. Rigsby, at last getting into the game, handed the ball over to Mr. Empey to scrimmage in a toast to the "Freshmen."

But meanwhile the touch-line had added somewhat to the pleasures of the game and cheered our team along. Messrs. Jellet and Boyd played upon the larynx, Mr. Sauer upon the piano, and Mr. Thorold upon his most original impromptu bagpipes. The game at last ended with cheers for the committee, and that fine old "College" song, "Auld Lang Syne."

We understand that Oom Paul Kruger, President of the Transvaal, sent his regrets, stating that on the evening in question he expected to be with Ladysmith, giving the British a feast of "Humble Pie!!!"

We were all overjoyed to hear from Dr. Ellis of the great success which Mr. Rosebrugh has achieved in wireless telegraphy. It appears that the following message was received on Friday afternoon: "Hello! Is that S.P.S.? Buller's speaking. The Boers are not playing square; send us a copy of the Burnside Rules."

The programmes of the game, telling "all about" the opposing teams, were a credit to the Committee.

Some of us did not catch which way the wind was blowing when F. W. Thorold spoke about those draughts. Where did that little brown jug come from?

S.P.S. AND THIRD AND FOURTH YEAR MEDS.

The game from the first was exciting, the Meds. having rather the better of the play in first half. Williams scored a touch in goal (which caused a dispute) soon after the whistle blew, and just before the time was up Macdonald was forced to rouge. Score—Meds., 3: S.P.S., 0.

In the second half the School roters soon found the key note and made their yell thrill through the heads of the Meds. like an electric shock. McArthur made a fine run from centre-field, gaining about thirty yards, and from the resulting scrimmage McLennan got over for a try, which Taylor converted by one of the finest kicks ever made around the Varsity. For the remainder of the time the School were continually on the Meds.' line, going over twice for tries, which were not allowed.

*Back*, Macdonald; *halfbacks*, Lang, Bertram, McArthur; *quarter*, Dickson; *scrimmage*, Isbester, Douglas, Fotheringham; *wings*, Hunt, McLennan, Taylor, Parsons, Thorne.

Everyone is delighted to see Mr. George Hunt back. He looks remarkably well for one who has spent six months in B.C.

## THE COLLEGE GIRL

Miss Elsie L. Darling, '95, who has lately been visiting Elmira College, Elmira, New York, has very kindly written the following description of the College and its ways:

Built upon a slight eminence, Elmira College rises from among the surrounding trees with the stern aspect of an old baronial castle. A central tower crowns an octagonal structure, and from this at right angles proceed three long wings. The grounds are not extensive but very pretty. It is suggestive of the special characteristics of American humor, that the designation of "The Lake" should be attached to a small pond in the centre of the garden, although on many fair days its depth is to be measured by the height of the sky, and the trees around all find room for a mirror in its smooth surface. Near the pond is the open space where the girls play basket-ball, this and tennis forming the outdoor sports. The only other building on the grounds is the Music Hall, on the top floor of which is the Natural History Museum. The dome of the preparatory school near by is used as an observatory.

It is when one enters the chapel and examines the groups of portraits that hang on its walls that one realises the age of the College. The mode of gown and hair-dress of many of the charming young girls suggests the times of our grandmothers. Framed in a conspicuous place hangs the first baccalaureate degree conferred by a women's college. Elmira had that distinction in 1859, Miss Helen Ayres being the recipient.

In the open space in the octagon hangs the great bell which summons the students to their various duties. Attendance on classes is absolutely required. Considerable choice of subjects is allowed. All the regular courses offered in most colleges may be had here, and the standard of work which has heretofore placed the College in secondary ranks is being steadily raised. Graduates of Elmira have recently received scholarships for post-graduate work at Bryn Mawr.

The great difference in the kind of work done in this College and in Toronto is due mainly to the difference in the system of teaching. In Elmira the responsibility of accomplishing the work falls rather on the teacher than on the student. It is rarely that the student needs to look farther ahead than the prescribed lesson. The work in class partakes oftener of the nature of drill than of lecture. Nothing is known of that oppressive responsibility of an individual review of the entire year's work that comes so heavily on Toronto students. Term examinations count as finals. Occasionally in some departments when the study of a book is finished a review will be held and the book laid aside for good. More intimate relations exist between teacher and student in Elmira, but it is doubtful whether the same independence of judgment is attained by the student under this system.

One or two special features of the work may be interesting to note. In modern languages great importance is laid on the spoken language, the classes being largely conducted in the foreign tongue. The music department is very strong, and often attracts students for its sake alone. A different problem from the one which confronts Toronto lady students with regard to gymnasium exercise, meets a rest loving Elmira student, for not only are arrangements provided for gymnasium work, but all students except seniors are required to attend classes.

The faculty is composed of both men and women. The President, Dr. A. C. McKenzie, is a Canadian by birth. Miss Leach is the Lady Principal. The Romance languages are under the direction of a Toronto graduate, Miss M. E. N. Fraser, Ph. D.

There are about 150 students in attendance, 75 of whom live in the building. It seem a large number when one hears the hum of merry conversation in the dining-room. The girls are seated at various small tables, each presided over by a lady teacher. Bedrooms are sometimes occupied singly, but usually two girls share a room. The glimpses to be had from the corridors of tea-tables, and divans piled high with cushions, and walls covered with photographs, are very attractive. For fear domestic intuitions should pass entirely out of the girls' nature, all are required to make their own beds, and Saturday morning brooms and dusters are flourished about in a very energetic manner.

There is no one association which would correspond to our Women's Literary Society, but the girls belong for the most part to one or two rival local Greek Letter Societies, which are social, literary and dramatic in character. Members receive their friends in the beautiful parlors furnished by the societies, where also the girls find much pleasant intercourse and enjoyment of the libraries and pianos. Each society rivals the other in procuring the services of noted lecturers, expenses being more than paid by the patronage of the public. Some dramatic programs have consisted of the reading of "The Bachelor's Dream," while it was being acted out in pantomime, of the presentation of Tennyson's "Dream of Fair Women" in tableaux, of scenes from "The Dolly Dialogues," and occasionally of plays written by some of the members. A strong New York Alumnæ Association busies itself improving the finance of the college, and contributes every year to the Historical section of the library. The Christian Association holds weekly prayer-meetings and monthly Sunday missionary meetings. An enthusiastic chapter of the College Settlement Association contributes a large sum annually to the work in the great cities, the money being raised by subscription and by a sale. The only clubs in connection with departments of study are the Biological and the Mendelssohn Clubs. Owing to the

great interest taken in music the latter is largely attended. The result of the good work accomplished is evidenced by the beautiful singing at daily service in chapel.

There are two publications, one an annual in book form published by the Juniors, a memento of the personnel of the faculty and contemporaneous students, and the other a paper entitled "The Sibyl," published by the Seniors five times a year. "The Sibyl" is a very attractive paper, both as regards its appearance and its contents. Essays written for class purposes and already criticized by the teacher are sometimes used. The stories are fresh and amusing, and the poems of unusual merit. "The Sibyl" is represented in the Intercollegiate Press Association. It might be worth while for "Sesame" to arrange an exchange with "The Sibyl."

Some quaint customs are, I believe, peculiar to Elmira College. Each class, upon entering, elects one of the faculty to be its Patron Saint. If the choice is a happy one, and if the Saint and his or her protégés are in sympathy, the beneficial influence of this office can hardly be overestimated. At all critical periods in class history the students may count on the careful and loving advice of their Saint, though this is seldom given except upon request. One Patron Saint said playfully that her duties consisted for the most part in accepting gifts of flowers and going for drives when invited. The social pleasures of the class are naturally shared with the Saint, as for instance the annual entertainment—usually a sleigh ride—which the Juniors give the Seniors, and the banquet which the Seniors give in return. At the banquet the Seniors' Patron Saint is toast mistress. It is in the careful keeping of the Patron Saint that the Seniors upon graduation leave a legacy to their successors. This is called "The Sibyl Box," and is always accompanied by directions as to when it shall be opened and by a program which calls for certain performances on the part of those who receive gifts. The contents are usually of a symbolic nature, as when the business manager of "The Sibyl" received an oil can to keep things running smoothly.

On the fourth story, contiguous to the library, are the Seniors' apartments, known as Senior Hall. Here even those Seniors whose homes are in Elmira have lodgings, and three rooms are set apart for parlors. Each year the new class furnishes these parlors to suit its individual tastes. Here are held banquets and all important Senior functions.

In closing mention must be made of the pretty surrounding country and the beautiful views of hills which may be had from almost every window; for

"Hills draw like Heaven,"


and must not be counted among the least of the uplifting influences of college life at Elmira.

The Y.W.C.A. was favored last week by the presence of Miss Elizabeth Ross. Miss Ross visited the College on Thursday and met many of the girls.

**Ladies' Glee  
Club Concert**

**Wednesday, Dec. 13**

**NORMAL SCHOOL  
THEATRE**



An entertaining and instructive programme.

MRS. KNOX BLACK and others.

Normal School Museum will be open after the Concert.

**Tickets: 25c. & 50c.**

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TORONTO, December 6th, 1899.

## A UNIVERSITY MEMENTO.

EVERY year it becomes a question of increasing difficulty to the graduating class to determine what method shall be adopted of leaving or having some record of the four years spent at the University. This year a "University Year Book" has been proposed and is now under discussion. Something of this kind is very desirable if it can be brought to successful issue and made to meet general approval. But it has occurred to us, and we believe it is a sentiment entertained by not a few, that we should leave something with our University as a commemoration of our sojourn here. This, of course, need not be antagonistic to any scheme for having a small memento for ourselves such as a University Year Book, but, we believe, would deepen the interest in the whole project and overcome that deficiency here of which so many of our graduates come to have a keen appreciation, namely, that there is no tangible evidence or record of one's life at college, and in place of being remembered, whole classes are far too soon added to the list of the forgotten.

Now, if it could be made a custom here that there be an annual presentation to the University from all the years of something worthy of the institution, we see no reason why it should not meet with approval and overcome the difficulty to which we have referred. Why should it not be a feasible plan to take up a collection from all the years and purchase, say, a handsome professorial chair for one of our lecture rooms. Fourth year students could double their contribution this year, and the lower classes could scarcely raise any very serious objections in view of the same method being pursued in later years. To add to the interest and to increase the likelihood of permanency a handsome volume might be provided and left in the library in which would be entered from year to year an account of the circumstances under which the presentation took place, followed by the signatures of those concerned. The presentation, perhaps, might take place at some of our public functions.

Possibly such a scheme would not meet the desired end, and at present might be quite impracticable, but we

see no reason why it should not be discussed; the need felt of something of this character we believe is strong enough to warrant a brief consideration at least.

\* \* \*

While, in this connection, one looks for the artistically defective with an eye to improvement, he is astonished to discover, that in spite of the acknowledged beauty of our buildings, they have some environments at least which, though possibly established on the principle of contrast, or what is more likely, convenience, have been made to fulfil their end with a scrupulous care which suggests the letter rather than the spirit of the law.

The truth is that there is considerable of the hideous about our buildings that might well be removed. We really present a better appearance at our University back door than we do at the front so far as an entrance is concerned. The driveway leading from Hoskin Ave. is a good one, and our readers will be pleased to learn that a concrete pavement will be laid from Hoskin Ave. to College St. next spring in place of the present wooden one. But of the entrances from College Street little of a laudatory character can be said. Both the drives are little better than washed-out roads for about the same distance; after that they are very good, and the view from the School of Practical Science up the east drive is one of the finest in the park. For the west drive, however, not so much can be said. We should imagine it productive of rather a bathetic effect upon the feelings of a visitor to proceed from a study of the exceptionally handsome entrance to the University College to a view of some of the minor architecture along the west drive. One might justly inquire at times with sardonic humor if certain portions just there constituted our department of agriculture, for the miniature barnyard may be seen at any time, and not infrequently a stray Jersey or a goat. We have no prejudice against these noble animals, but we imagine they might fitly be relegated to the lot north of Hoskin Ave., and something done to improve the general appearance of things about our front entrance, so that it will not be necessary to bring visitors in the back way in order that the first impression, which is proverbially a lasting one, may be favorable. Possibly it may be the desire of a later committee to have a little road-building or something of that nature done. Indeed a permanent committee to look after the general appearance of the grounds and buildings might not be out of place.

## Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

The third of the series of sermons to students will be given in the Students' Union on Sunday, Dec. 17th, at 3:30 p.m., by Rev. Chas. A. Eaton, M.A., pastor of Bloor Street Baptist Church.

At the regular meeting this afternoon (Thursday) there will be a short discussion on "The College Student in Relation to National Life." The discussion will be led by R. A. Cassidy of the third year. Mr. Symonds, of the Provincial Committee, is expected to be present and to say something of Association work throughout Ontario and the Dominion.



# THE NEWS

## CALENDAR.

- Friday, Dec. 8th.  
Philosophical Society, 4 p.m., Room 3.
- Friday, Dec. 8th.  
Public Mock Parliament, 8 p.m., Students' Union.
- Saturday, Dec. 9th.  
Senior Reception, 4 to 7 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 9th.  
Varsity vs. Athenæum chess match, 8 p.m., at Athenæum.
- Joint Monday Lecture, Dec. 11.  
"Nerve Cell and the Race" (illustrated with lime-light views), by Prof. McCallum, 4.10 p.m., Chemical Amphitheatre.
- Wednesday, Dec. 13th.  
Natural Science Association, 4 p.m., Biological Building.
- Wednesday, Dec. 13th.  
Ladies' Glee Club Concert, 8 p.m., Normal School Theatre.
- Thursday, Dec. 14th.  
Varsity Dinner, 8 p.m., Gymnasium.

### LITERARY SOCIETY.

The meeting of the Lit Friday night was smaller than usual, owing to the numerous counter-attractions, including the S.P.S. Dinner and Victoria Conversazione. In the absence of Dr. Smale the Vice-President occupied the chair. The most interesting feature of the programme was an open debate, "Resolved that the attitude of England towards the Transvaal is justified." Mr. B. A. Simpson led the affirmative, and gave a very interesting historical sketch, from 1883, when Britain moved for the freedom of the slaves. The other speakers for the affirmative were Messrs. Cassidy, McGregor and J. J. W. Simpson. Mr. Keith replied as leader of the negative. He laid stress on the grasping policy of the South African Company. Mr. Cecil Rhodes came in for very severe criticism, which it is hoped will never come to his ears. The negative was supported by Mr. W. C. Good, who emphasized the moral obligations of England, and also by Messrs. A. C. Campbell and McNeil.

Mr. McLeod advised in the course of the debate that, for the benefit of the reporters, the speakers state what side they were speaking on. Mr. G. A. Cornish, after a careful review of the arguments, decided in favor of the affirmative.

Mr. J. J. Gibson, was sent to do Varsity honor at the Med. Dinner, and H. D. Graham at the Dental At-Home.

### LECTURE BY CAPT. ROSS.

A distinctly University audience greeted Captain Ross on Saturday afternoon in the Chemical Building when he lectured on "The Boers and the War in South Africa." President Loudon introduced the speaker and took advantage of the opportunity to congratulate the Alumnae Association on their first public appearance. He made apt allusion to the women graduates as "the women contingent of University College, whose aims were to promote the interests of the University, even to carrying the war into Africa." The lecturer then gave an historical outline of the colonization of South Africa and of the main events that have brought about the present war. At the conclusion of his address, maps of South Africa were projected on the screen and Captain Ross replied to any questions

asked by his hearers. Some interesting accounts of General Buller in the campaign where he won the Victorian Cross, and other incidents connected with the Zulu war, were thus narrated.

### VARSAITY DINNER DEC. 14TH.

All that remains to make the third annual dinner of Toronto University a success next Thursday evening is a liberal attendance of the undergraduates. Harry Webb is to do the catering, so there will be more than enough for the inner man. The principal speakers of the city will be present and, with our faculty, will provide intellectual treats. All that the committee want now is an assurance that the students will appreciate the importance and benefit of the function and will turn out in force and patronise it. Undergraduates will greatly assist the committee if they purchase tickets as soon as possible. There has been issued a limited number of gallery tickets. These will be secured only by those who get their dinner tickets early.

### THE ITALIAN PRIZES.

These prizes, which did not arrive in time to be presented to the winners at Convocation, were forwarded to the President a few days ago from Montreal by Dr. Solimbergo, the Italian Consul-General, to whose active interest in the matter the University is largely indebted for the original donation of the books by the Italian Government.

The winners in the various years (4th, Miss H. E. Downey; 3rd, Miss E. M. Fleming; 2nd, M. A. Buchanan; 1st, A. Cohen) are now congratulating themselves on the possession of their well-earned rewards. The books are all valuable *éditions de luxe*, and are the finest prizes of the kind offered in the University.

### FIRST MATCH IN THE TORONTO CHESS LEAGUE.

'Varsity meets the Athenæum in a chess match on Saturday night, Dec. 9th, at 8 o'clock. 'Varsity will be represented by Prof. Mavor, Mr. Beck, R. G. Hunter, B.A., S. F. Shenstone, Mr. Burton (grad.), N. S. Shenstone, R. R. Bradley, B.A. (Osgoode), F. E. Brown, Gibson (grad.), Prof. Hutton, A. W. Keith, Clappison, Brethour (med.), Gould, Hodson, Parsons, Jordan, B.A. In cases where players are not on time the game is defaulted. S. F. Shenstone is captain of the 'Varsity dozen.

### OPEN DISCUSSION IN DEPARTMENTAL SOCIETIES.

The Political Science Club adopted this feature with marked success last Thursday afternoon. After very interesting papers on the "Value of the Study of Political Science," by J. W. Mitchell, D. J. Thorn (by proxy), and F. M. Chapman, open discussion on the question was invited. This was entered into by Prof. G. M. Wrong, Dr. S. M. Wickett, J. F. M. Stewart, G. Clappison and J. W. Mitchell.

### MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETY.

At the regular meeting of the Society on Friday last, some interesting papers upon subjects of live interest at the present day were read: "Kelvin and His Achievements," by E. F. Burton, '01, and "Mathematics in the Mechanical Trades," by J. S. Plaskett, B.A. Some recent experiments and investigations with the "Coherer" were explained by J. Patterson, '00.

### CLASS PINS FOR '03.

The Color Committee of '03 has received the class pins and is prepared to dispose of them to members of the class. The design is pretty and original—a blue V on a white ground, with '03 in gold letters between the forks of the V, and "Varsity" also in gold letters below the V. The price is 45 cents.

## PROF. MAVOR ON RUSSIA.

Prof. Mavor yesterday lectured on "Russia" in the chemical building of the University. This was the first of the series of lectures to be delivered under the joint auspices of the different college societies, and the attendance was large. As Mr. Mavor himself described the lecture, it was necessarily "scrappy," but none the less interesting. Stereopticon views were shown of the most interesting scenes in St. Petersburg and Moscow, characteristic scenes in the country districts, types of the peasants, and typical scenes in Finland and on the shores of the White Sea.

## GRADUATING CLASS PHOTOS.

At a meeting of the Executive of the class on Monday afternoon, the contract for the graduating group was awarded to E. J. Rowley, Spadina Ave. Large groups can be got at \$1.00 and \$1.25, according to size; and cabinets, from same negative, according to mount, at \$4.00, \$3.50, \$3.00, and \$2.50. The members of the class of 1900, who wish Christmas photographs, should sit as soon as possible.

## OPEN MEETING OF THE LITERARY SOCIETY—MOCK PARLIAMENT.

As many students as possible should bring their friends and attend the first public mock parliament of the Varsity Literary Society to-morrow (Friday) evening. A short musical programme has been prepared. The speeches will, on the average, be limited to between three and four minutes. It is understood that the prizes won at the athletic games will be presented during the evening.

## LADIES' GLEE CLUB CONCERT.

Every year the women students of this University have given a public concert in connection with their Glee Club. The concert this year will be held on Dec. 13th, in the Normal School Theatre, and, it is expected, will be superior in every respect to anything hitherto attempted. The programme will be entertaining and instructive and of unusual merit, the name of Mrs. Knox Black being of itself sufficient guarantee of its excellence. After the concert the Normal School Museum will be open for the benefit of those present. The patronesses are as follows: Miss Mowat, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Harcourt, Mrs. Mulock, Mrs. Baker, and Miss Salter. Tickets are only 25 and 50 cents and there should be a liberal patronage from the students. It would be well if the men students organized and went in a body.

## XMAS NUMBERS.

It is expected that the Xmas Number of VARSITY will be out on the 20th., to enable those who go home for the holiday to get their copy before leaving. It will be considerably enlarged and will contain poems, literary articles, stories, etc. from prominent graduates and others. Leave your name with the business manager if you desire a copy, whether you are a subscriber or not.

The Xmas number of ACTA this year surpasses anything which Victoria has heretofore produced in this line. The cover is very artistic in design and is a great improvement on last year's. The literary matter, which is chiefly by outsiders, is of an exceptionally good quality and most suitable for such a publication. Among the contributors we notice: Sir John Bourinot, Wm. Clark, W. Sanford Evans, Morgan Wood, Prof. Mavor, Dr. Kirschmann, Theodore H. Rand, Goldwin Smith, and others.

## THE SPORTS

## CENTURY DEFEATED BY '02.

In the closest and hardest fought game of the Mulock Cup series, the men of the second year managed to defeat the seniors, and for the second time win the championship in Arts. When the two teams lined up on Saturday morning there were nine men on the field who had played on Varsity I. during the past season, and this fact alone assured a hard game. Nor were the two hundred rooters disappointed, for the match was hard and fast, and up till the last minute it was anybody's game.

Century won the toss and decided to kick south with the wind slightly in their favor. McKenzie kicked off for the Sophomores, and for awhile the ball travelled backward and forward by reason of some long punting. Finally the ball dropped close to the century goal posts, where a fumble allowed Biggs to fall on the ball for a try which McKenzie converted. Score, 6-0.

After this, mass play was the order of the day, and almost the only punting that was done was the result of free kicks. By a series of gains made by Gibson's bucking the line, the ball was carried to the south end of the field where Gibson got over for a try for the seniors. As this was not converted it left the score 6-4, and thus it remained to the end of the game.

In the second half Century worked like Trojans to overcome their opponents' lead, and had it not been for the large number of off-sides the ball would have been in '02 territory most of the time. As it was there was every indication of a Garrison finish, for when time was called the ball had been within the sophomore ten yard line for ten minutes.

Too much cannot be said of the work of Biggs and McKenzie for the winners. Both played marvellous games and the way they ran and bucked the line accounted in a great measure for their victory.

For the seniors Gibson, Beale and Harrison played the best games but as a team they did not play with that vim and fire that was so evident in the play of their opponents.

The teams were: "00"—*Back*, Sinclair; *halves*, Kilgour, Beal, Clare; *quarter*, Gibson (captain); *scrimmage*, Kay, Shenstone, Harcourt; *wings*, Armstrong, Harrison, Telford, Donovan, Meredith, Graham, Mitchell.

"02"—*Back*, McHugh; *halves*, Patterson, McKenzie (captain), McDermott; *quarter*, P. Biggs; *scrimmage*, Hedley, Mullen, Stratton; *wings*, Smith, Denholm, MacKay, McGregor, Dean, Ingram, Martin.

*Referee*, Percy Brown; *umpire*, A. F. Aylesworth; *touch line*, J. Foy, R. B. Fudger.

## S. P. S., I; ST. MICHAEL'S, O.

On Monday afternoon on the Bloor St. Athletic Grounds S. P. S. defeated St. Michael's College in the semi-finals of the Mulock Cup series by the very close score of 1 to 0. The day was raw and cold and the wind made it very uncomfortable for the spectators.

In the first half St. Michael's had the wind, and excepting the first five minutes, during which McArthur kicked the ball over the dead-line for one point, St. Michael's had all the best of the play. The numerous free kicks which were awarded to the school relieved their line very often.

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In the second half, with the wind in their favor, S.P.S. started to rush matters, but although they would bring the ball to their opponents' line they could not get it over, and as St. Michael's were not given an opportunity of scoring again the game ended with the score of 1 to 0.

For the School Burnside, Isbester and McArthur played good games, while for St. Michael's Sheridan and Cryne, their plucky little quarter, distinguished themselves for their running and bucking the line.

The teams were: S.P.S. (1)—*Back*, McDonald; *halves*, Burnside, Bertram, McArthur; *quarter*, Dickson; *scrimmage*, Empy, Isbester, Fotheringham; *wings*, McLennan, Hunt, Parsons, Thorne, Taylor, Harvey, Gibson.

St. Michael's (0)—*Back*, Dooley; *halves*, Dissette, Sheridan, Collins; *quarter*, Cryne; *scrimmage*, Thompson, Staley, Carter; *wings*, Stormont, McAllister, Duggan, Piggott, Roster, O'Connor. *Referee*, N. Beal, *umpire*, G. Fleck.

**Varsity Dinner, December 14**  
**Ladies' Glee Club Concert, Dec. 13**

PASS UNDER THE ROD.

Pass under the rod! O! child of mine;  
 Pass under the rod!  
 For thy God hath need of thee this day;  
 Pass under the rod!

Long and with patience I waited for thee;  
 Pass under the rod!  
 Thy face to the world was turned away;  
 Pass under the rod!

O! child of mine, thy heart is sore;  
 Pass under the rod!  
 But deeper the grief thou hast caused to me;  
 Pass under the rod!

O! child of mine, thy soul is born;  
 Raised be the rod!  
 Thou wilt follow now where I would lead;  
 Thou need'st no rod!

—XOUTH.

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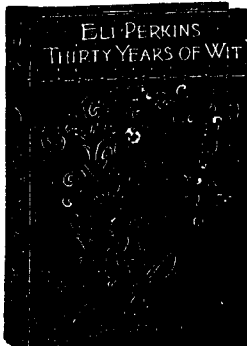


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At last reports F. W. Anderson was in Winnipeg.

No person should forget the century reception on Saturday.

There is to be a meeting of the Senate on Friday night.

Two Japanese paid a visit to our University buildings on Tuesday.

The executive of '02 report that their reception was a great success.

WANT COLUMN.—A large full catalogue of all books in the Library.

A set of boxing gloves for general use wanted before May in the Gym.

We are very sorry to learn that one of Prof. Wrong's little boys has met with a serious accident.

The second year men are to enjoy a foretaste of next May on Saturday next. English composition exam. 10 to 12 a.m.

The following exchanges have been received: *Acta Victoriana, Queen's Univ. Journal, McMaster Univ. Monthly, McGill Outlook, Normal College Monthly, Vox Wesleyana, University Monthly, Notre Dame Scholastic, The Mitre, Dalhousie Gazette, St. John's College Magazine.*

All old Parkdale Collegiate Institute boys should remember the Graduate At Home on Friday evening, December 15th, in St. George's Hall. Tickets \$1 each.

He was a freshman and was looking for an apartment. He found a suitable place and asked the terms. The lady innocently asked him, "Is it for light housekeeping?"

The business manager would like to hear from those who have not as yet paid their subscription for VARSITY. He will be in the VARSITY sanctum at 10 o'clock Thursday and Friday mornings.

The two important University functions on now are the Ladies' Glee Club Concert on the 13th, and the University Dinner on the 14th. Both these functions are of primary importance in the social side of our University life, and it is not asking too much that both should be well patronised. The Glee Club has a good programme, and the Dinner Committee promise a rare repast.

PROF. MACALLUM'S LECTURE.

Our readers will please notice that the lecture by Prof. Macallum on "The Nerve Cell and the Race" to be delivered on Monday, 11th inst., will be given in the Chemical Amphitheatre, and not, as stated in the programme, in Room 9. The lecture will be illustrated with limelight views. The hour is 4.10 o'clock.

Hockey and skating should become popular now that the cold weather has come.

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