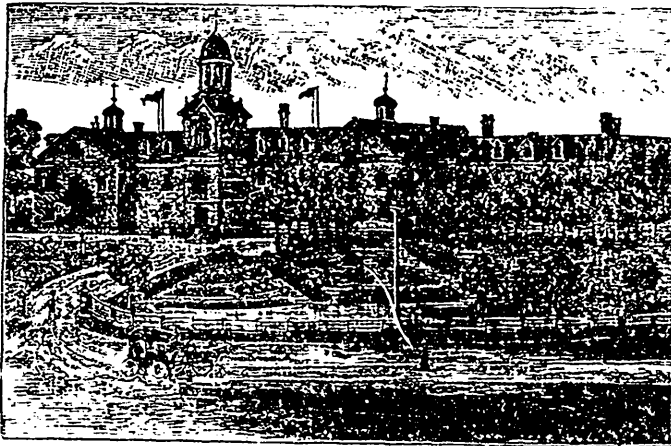


# Excelsior.

November, 1899.



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Antigonish, N. S.

H. Thompson, D. D., Rector.

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ANTIGONISH

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# Excelsior.

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE STUDENTS OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S COLLEGE

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VOL. IV.            ANTIGONISH, N. S., NOVEMBER, 1899.            No. 2.

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TERMS: Fifty cents a year in advance; single copies six cents.

ADVERTISING RATES.—One inch, single column, \$1.50 per year.  
One inch, double column, \$3.00 per year.  
Other rates on application.

Address all communications to

EXCELSIOR, Box 41,

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We are grateful to those who have expressed their appreciation of EXCELSIOR. The opinions of competent critics are always welcome, and inspire us with the hope of making our periodical continue worthy of such complimentary references.

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The "Hero of Manila" has surrendered unconditionally to the beautiful and accomplished Mrs. Hazen. A capitulation usually precedes the signing of a treaty of peace, and we only hope that the present event may be no exception and be followed by *no declaration of domestic hostilities.*

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One of the most important things to which a student can direct his attention during his college life is the cultivation

of a feeling of responsibility for his statements. In a college there are excellent opportunities for bringing out and developing that phase of character. A student should nurture this assiduously and never forget that while the irresponsible may sometimes be treated with indulgence, they can never hope to command that respect which is necessary in order that one may wield an influence for good on society.

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The proposed admission of Porto Rico into the American Union is of interest to Canadians. Such an event would, we believe, hasten the union of Canada and Jamaica. The latter exports large quantities of tropical products to the United States. This trade will be lost to her if Cuba and Porto Rico are allowed free access to the American market as proposed. With this market closed she will naturally turn to Canada which can supply her with all that she now receives from the United States. The result would be a trade arrangement mutually satisfactory, and, given this commercial union, we believe political union would soon follow.

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We wish to thank our many friends who have so promptly sent in their subscriptions, and we feel sure that only the inconvenience of mailing silver prevents others from sending the "ever welcome." We merely suggest that such an inconvenience may be avoided by mailing us a dollar bill.

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Evidently the N. S. Barristers' Society measures one's fitness to enter the profession by the size of his pocket-book. We have full sympathy with any effort to raise the standard, but are inclined to think this might be better accomplished by raising the intellectual instead of the monetary requirements. But self-preservation is nature's first law.

## THE RENAISSANCE OF CAPE BRETON.

History repeats itself. The chronicle of the great acts and glorious achievements of to-day is but a second edition of that of ages long since gone by. That of time may be "fuller, richer, and more varied than was ever seen before," but the addendum is only the gloss of years of intelligence, peace and progress. Each completed day marks the further evolution of a single grand idea :

" Throughout the ages, one increasing purpose runs,  
And the thoughts of men are widened with the process of the suns."

In the fifteenth century, Europe was awakened by a remarkable movement called the Renaissance. The fall of Constantinople compelled a large number of learned men to betake themselves to Western Europe carrying with them erudition and aestheticism. Under any circumstances, man naturally strives to gratify his tastes; and in their novel experiences these took all the more kindly to their ever-constant friends, their books. Through these the ancient classics became generally known. The results of this revival of learning, results still going on, are too great and far-reaching for me to describe; and I only hope that the present movement, in which I see in a manner mirrored the Renaissance, may not be without its great and lasting results.

The day is easily remembered when outside of our Province, Cape Breton was known as a small irregular mark on the map, east of Nova Scotia proper. In those days, a soil rich in what I may term its primeval fertility gave forth in abundance, and care was unknown from Sugar Loaf to Point Tupper. Contentment went hand-in-hand with ease and plenty, and no stalwart son or modest daughter wished to leave the quiet home for the turmoil and temptation of the city.

But "the scene was changed." Drained by unsystematic method — or rather want of method — the farms refused the wonted crop; the waters, robbed of their wealth by the purse-scines of greedy, grasping, foreign enterprise, gave but a sorry return to the untiring efforts of local fishermen.

Then the inevitable: the youth were attracted whither their

labors would be more adequately rewarded; its hope gone abroad, the country was but a mock memory of its former self, and the wave of depression that lately swept over America left Cape Breton writhing in the coils of financial desperation.

But as the rose has a thorn, so has that thorn a rose. The downfall of Constantinople was, no doubt, regarded as a calamity; but viewed in its consequences, what a blessing it has proved! Likewise, deplorable as may have been the exodus from Cape Breton, to it, I think, must be attributed the influx of people that has just commenced, and that seems destined to continue until Cape Breton becomes that field of wealth and commerce for which its geographical nature so well adapts it.

The young people driven by circumstances into self-ex-patriation from the land they loved so well, took with them not so much perhaps of book-knowledge and polish of manners as did the Greeks, but they did take with them a purity of heart, an integrity of character, and a steadfastness of purpose that paved their way to success. Amid the gold and snow of the Klondyke, on the fog-bound shores of Newfoundland, under the sunny skies of Italy, in far-off Vancouver, lashed by the waters of the misnamed Pacific, in short, wherever our people have penetrated, they are to be found in the van, respected, loved, revered.

Our forefathers, even in the time of their heathen and semi-barbarous character, were a home-loving people. The earliest writings give evidence of their love for kindred and country; nor have these traits been obliterated in our people by centuries of descent. In fact our young people abroad were often taunted with having earned independence under a foreign flag and then returned home; and many a brave son and fair daughter abroad asked with their dying breath to have their bones interred in the old family plot.

This steadfast attachment to fatherland, and unwavering devotion to duty made each an advertisement of their country. From them, our neighbors of the Republic learned of Cape Breton: with half-incredulous ear the latter listened to solicited descriptions of the placid waters of the Bras d'Or



that play hide-and-seek in the interior of the island ; of the mellifluous Margaree teeming with trout and salmon ; and of the frowning peaks of Eufume, poetic in their very ruggedness. Curiosity was excited by such tales from those models of manhood and manliness whose form and character marked them as the product of such a country. Then did foreigners begin to realize that, for sport and scenery, Cape Breton was a world in miniature, and thus was started tourist travel to the island.

But the American eye while feasting on the charms which nature had so lavishly strewn about, was not blind to the latent wealth of the country ; and American enterprise, ever-alert, ever-achieving, saw in Cape Breton a profitable field for investment.

And now, a word about the development of our industries, and I am done. In Cape Breton County, which for years has been honey-combed for the stored up sunbeams of a geological age, added activity has been caused in the hive by the Dominion Iron and Steel Co. The great work now going on in Sydney is already too well known to require my mention here ; but I may remark that in the month of August, eighteen hundred names were on the pay-roll of one company.

In Inverness, the long-asked-for railway is under construction ; the oil wells of Lake Ainslie are being bored ; the mines of Whycoconagh are in active operation, and at Broad Cove Mines, an artificial harbor has been made where Nature gave but a hint.

Backed by Vanderbilt millions is a project to build a line of railway from the Strait of Canso to historic Louisburg, whence a fast line of steamers would cross the Atlantic, thus making Cape Breton the "front door of Canada."

As I scan the horizon of our prospects I see on all sides the dawn of better times ; and I sincerely hope that coincident with the coming of our prosperity may be the return from abroad of those whose presence there was, unconsciously perhaps, but none the less surely, the cause of the present movement.

## CLASS OF '99.

The autumn of '94 also ushered into Collegiate life the youngest member of the "Class of '99"—L. E. O'K. For some days after his arrival the youthful stranger from Arizona was the object of no little attention and interest to his fellow-students. That a boy of scarce eleven summers could accomplish alone such a long and tedious journey was sufficient to win the admiration of all; while his self-reliant disposition and gravity of speech and deportment established him in high favor even among the staid and sober seniors.

Possessed of a vigorous intellect and an unusually retentive memory, L— soon made marked progress in his studies. He utilized his hours of study wisely, nor during his whole course did his ambition extend to employing for study "the hours sacred to repose." Neither was he ever known for a "plugger." Yet when the dread exams. came round L— was equally at home in the various subjects, and with the same placid indifference encountered the abstruse intricacies of Euclid, the sublimities of Homer and Virgil or the dull and measured numbers of Chaucer.

Beyond an occasional game of tennis or croquet the sporting fraternity of the campus knew him not. We shrewdly suspect that he cherished a stronger liking for many things than for the exhilarating exercise of running. To this circumstance we attribute his failure to identify himself with the more active games of baseball and football. At any rate it is not known with certainty that he indulged to any extent in this species of locomotion except once or twice indeed in the elusive pursuit of a hat with which the sportive wind had taken liberties. L— had, however, his own system of exercise, in which he indulged regularly and where happy results were evidenced in a splendid physique and uniform good health.

The late spring months of the present year discovered a new and unexpected propensity in the subject of our sketch. He became a determined "naturalist." His "local nature observations" were directed to and centred upon a well-known pool in the near vicinity of the campus. Here he

might be seen standing in a bent posture endeavoring with the assistance of a friend whose sympathy had been enlisted, to lure the wily tad-pole from the recesses of its marshy retreat. His efforts finally proved successful, and soon the windows of his room were garnished with an imposing array of bottles containing specimens of the limous denizens of the pool in various stages of development. Although surrounded by his foresight with everything peculiar to their native element these tender innocents did not take kindly to the change. The "splendid isolation" soon proved fatal, and in a few days animation ceased to suffuse the contents of this novel aquarium. It is not quite clear whether death was due to "home-sickness" or to the nipping air of a spring night, nor do we think our naturalist had sufficient enthusiasm left in the now unseemly mass to investigate such an interesting problem. However that be, the bottles quickly disappeared, and so did L.—'s interest in the development of frogs.

During his last year he became an active member of the Debating Society. His views were always keenly appreciated, delivered as they were in terse and forceful language that bespoke thought and conviction.

Among O'K.'s numerous accomplishments must be reckoned sketching. His graphic pen and ink sketches of some luckless student who chanced to abandon dignity of position for comfort were often sufficiently amusing, and the facility with which these sketches were thrown off was in itself a cause for admiration.

We might detail several incidents connected with his course, but we have perhaps said enough. O'K.— passed through each successive year with more distinction and completed his course at an earlier age than many enter upon it. He is possessed of many sterling qualities. Such advantages compel success, and EXCELSIOR confidently expects for him a brilliant and a prosperous future.

## CLASS OF '99.

Next on our list is A. McD., who entered College in 1893. His advent in our midst was noiseless and unaccompanied by any particular event or noteworthy incident; for though fresh from the country there was no "grane in his optics."

His first term continued in the same uneventful way and was followed by two years of teaching in country schools, for he was but one of the many self-supporting students who have attended St. Francis Xavier's in varying numbers from its foundation, and who have generally formed its strongest graduates. In '97 he returned to College and pursued his studies in Arts as a Junior. He was by that time a good French scholar, being able to read, write and speak the language with ease. In consequence of having some literary aspirations he was appointed to the staff of editors of our College journal, and remained in that position till his graduation in '99. But though his taste for literature seemed stronger than any other, yet mathematics was also a favorite study and one in which he stood high.

He was the possessor of a fine bass voice, which he used in various ways, sometimes in the choir, sometimes in serio-comic renditions of extracts from Shakespeare. Coupled with this he had an immense head of hair, which it is generally supposed was worn for the purpose of giving him a more poet-like appearance; for he was exceedingly given to end-rhyming while regarding blank verse with utter contempt.

In the field of athletics he confined himself to handball and putting the shot, but made up the deficiency in number of games by being foremost in those in which he engaged. In the last mentioned sport he was an adept, being often abreast of the College champion.

A. was an interested member of the debating club and never allowed a night to pass without speaking at least once upon the subject under discussion. At different times he was president and at others was appointed a member of the various committees. In view of his experience and of the well-chosen language which he used he was always listened to with attention and pleasure.

He was a lover of the pipe, and many of his recreation hours were spent in the smoking room with other chosen spirits engaged in political discussion or games of cards. Here happened many interesting and amusing incidents which unhappily are lost to his biographer, since such things rarely became known to non-smokers.

During the greater part of A.'s college life he acted as prefect in several studies, yet his popularity with the boys did not decrease because of this, but to the last he remained a favorite with all.

It is not yet known what profession he will take up, but whatever it be EXCELSIOR wishes him success.

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#### OBITUARY.

In this issue we regret to chronicle the death at his home, Beaver Cove, C. B., on the 24th ult., of John Francis Xavier McNeil. In the fall of '91 the deceased first entered our study halls, whence he graduated with honors five years later. From the day of his arrival he won the good opinion of all—an opinion which as time went on ripened into esteem. Many of the students of to-day remember his frank open countenance and praiseworthy zeal in the performance of the many duties imposed on a college student. Possessed of a strong and an inborn love for study, his course throughout his whole college career was most successful; so that when in '96 he received his degree of Bachelor of Arts, he could well say that his days at college were not mis-spent. To his classmates courteous and obliging, to his professors respectful and attentive, he was an example to the earnest student. Were a fellow-student asked to describe the character of "John F. X."—as he always has been and always will be affectionately called—he would content himself with saying that he was "a simple and upright man, fearing God, and avoiding evil."

After his years at college, he taught school for a term at his home. Meanwhile the sense of a higher calling had ripened into conviction, and in the latter part of '97 he resolved to take up the study of theology; but though "man

proposes, God disposes, for the chapter was near its close. He fell sick, and found relief only in death. Throughout his illness he was entirely resigned to the will of His Maker. When asked by the writer some months ago whether he would like to live a few years longer, he earnestly expressed the desire of an early death. "Life is at best short and vain," he said, "and now my only wish is to be prepared for eternity." Though it is usual for consumptives to look forward to regaining health, he almost from the first looked upon his sickness as the event has shown it was, a summons to go hence. Thus he was constantly mindful of approaching death, and he welcomed it as the passage to a deathless and better life.

In his death the graduates of '96 feel keenly the loss of one of the most promising of their number. They regret his death; but of him perhaps it may said: "He was taken away lest wickedness should alter his understanding or deceit beguile his soul. . . . For his soul pleased God; therefore He hastened to bring him out of the midst of iniquities." From the trials and troubles of a heartless world has he been removed, and now we hope he sleeps the sleep of the just.

LUX PERPETUA LUCEAT EI.

## IN THE SUNNY WEST INDIES.

(Continued.)

Leaving Bermuda we set our course for the island of St. Thomas, where we arrived after a pleasant voyage of five days. This island belongs to Denmark, and is the oldest of her West India colonies. It first came into the possession of the Danish Crown in 1666; since then it has changed hands quite often, being held for a time by the West India and Guiana Co., who purchased it from Denmark. It was re-bought by Denmark in 1755; in 1801 it was held by an English force, but was given back in the following year; it was again captured by the English in 1807, and restored again by treaty and has remained a Danish colony ever since.

The Governor, who is also at the head of military affairs,

resides six months in St. Thomas, and the other six months in St. Croix, a sister colony. He is assisted by a Colonial Council consisting of four members nominated by the Crown, and eleven elected by the people. At present about 200 persons enjoy electoral privileges in St. Thomas.

The town of Charlotte Amalie is very beautiful when seen from the deck of a steamer as it glides into the harbor. Its streets are scrupulously clean and well kept. The local institutions are the Colonial Bank, St. Thomas Gas Light Co. and the Floating Dock Co. There is a Theological Seminary on the island for the training of students intended for the Moravian Church. There is also a Convent known as "La Sainte Union de Sacres Coeurs," for young ladies.

Our next port of call was St. Croix or Santa Cruz, which we reached after a sail of five hours from St. Thomas. St. Croix was discovered by Columbus on his second voyage in 1493, and named Santa Cruz by him. It was formerly called Ay Ay by the Indians who originally inhabited it. This island was for many years the scene of strife between the English, Dutch and Danes. In 1815 it became a Danish possession, having been ceded to them by the English.

In 1867 the island suffered severely from an earthquake and tidal wave, by which the American man-o-war *Monangahela* was placed in the front street of Fredericksted. There are over 100 sugar estates on the island. The chief employment of the rural population is the cultivation of the sugar-cane.

St. Croix is not the rich island it once was, but for natural beauty and fertility of soil, it is surpassed by few, if by any, of the West India Islands. Its wooded hills, cultivated valleys and fine roads lined on either side by palm trees help to justify its claims to the title which has been given to it, "The Garden of the West Indies." The Government is similar to that of St. Thomas. The English language is spoken almost as much as the Danish.

Within a run of ten hours is the Isle of St. Kitts, otherwise known as St. Christopher. The island was named by Columbus in 1493 after his patron saint. The steamer lies within a quarter of a mile from the shore, so that it is necessary to

hire boatmen to row one ashore, which can be done at the expense of one shilling.

Once ashore the visitor is enraptured by the beauty of the surroundings, the royal palms rear their graceful crowns high over head; the broad leaves of the banana and plaintain trees wave like banners in the air, and here and there trees in full bloom covered with magenta blossoms, present a striking contrast to the network of green foliage that surrounds them. Nothing can exceed in loveliness and grandeur the views to be obtained from the road that runs from Basseterre in a south-easterly direction, as it climbs a gentle ascent to the crest of the island, where the Atlantic is to be seen stretching away as far as the eye can reach.

Basseterre is the principal town. It is quite flat, and very well kept. In the centre of it are pretty public gardens. Among the many interesting plants to be seen here is the famous Banyan tree, whose waving branches after a while reach the ground and form pillars of support. Thus one tree may cover a large area, and have the appearance of a grove.

St. Kitts is owned by the English. It has an area of 68 square miles, and a population of about 28,000. The principal industry is the raising of sugar-cane and its manufacture into sugar.

Our next visit was to the Isle of Nevis. It is about one hour's sail from St. Kitts. The highest land is Ben Nevis, 3,950 feet. The town everywhere shows signs of a past greatness, and the island is studded with the ruins of noble country houses. About a third of a mile into the country is a fine sulphur bath, and the ruins of a great stone edifice, built some years ago at an expense of £40,000, and sold afterwards for £40. In a district of the island called Gingerland, there is a small church, in which is to be seen (although it is not well authenticated) the marriage certificate of Horatio Nelson and Mrs. Nisbit, who was a native of the island.

Antigua, forty miles from Nevis, was our next stopping place. The island is situated within  $17^{\circ} 2'$  and  $17^{\circ} 13'$  N. lat., and between  $61^{\circ} 44'$  and  $61^{\circ} 58'$  W. long., and is 20 miles long, and 54 miles in circumference. It is of a rough



circular figure much indented with creeks and bays. It is surrounded on all sides except on the south by islets, rocks and shoals, which render navigation along the coast dangerous.

The temperature varies little during the year. The rainfall averages 45 inches annually. Antigua, like all sugar producing colonies of the West Indies, is suffering from severe commercial depression. The planters have endeavored to surmount this difficulty by the application of more scientific methods to the cultivation and manufacture of sugar.

St. John, the capital, is on the northwest of the island, and presents on approach to the harbor a very picturesque appearance from the beauty of its situation and general neatness. The city extends from east to west with a gentle slope towards the harbor, which, by the way, is not of much use on account of a large sand bar which prevents ships of considerable draught from approaching the city. St. John possesses perhaps the finest public library in the West Indies, where all the latest newspapers and books may be found. The fee which permits one to partake of the benefits of the library is one penny, thus a poor man has a chance to obtain some knowledge at a small expense. The religious denominations include Anglicans, Catholics, and Wesleyans. The Anglican Cathedral, built in 1845 at a cost of £40,000, is one of the chief sights of the city. It has double walls as a protection against earthquakes, and two very high towers, from which a splendid view can be had.

(To be continued.)

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## SPORTS.

### FOOT BALL.

At last the long desired interest in foot ball has taken definite shape. A few practice games infused great enthusiasm in the students, and the result was the arrangement of a series of games between the Junior and Intermediate Studies. During practice new sprinters, good scrim. men and sure tackles had put themselves in evidence, and much interest was taken in the result of the games.

The first game came off on the 23rd ult., and was a signal victory for the Juniors, the score being 13 to 0. The victors had decidedly the advantage in the scrim, which being ably supported by the halves, won the game. The admirers of both teams were present en masse and by just applause inspired the players with that vim which alone makes a foot ball game pleasant to the spectator.

The second game of the series came off on the 2nd inst., and the intense interest displayed by the students was amply rewarded by the fastest game ever put up on the campus, the score being 3 to 3. The Intermediate team was greatly strengthened by the addition of two new halves, who cleverly took in everything that came their way. The game from start to finish was full of snap and vim, and the continuous rounds of applause showed clearly with what satisfaction the spectators had watched.

The third game took place on the 8th inst., and was admitted by all to be the best game of the series. The Juniors won by a score of 8 to 5.

In the first half the play was sharp, the Juniors having decidedly the advantage in the scrimmage. After fifteen minutes of hard play the Juniors scored the first touch, which was cleverly converted into a goal by J. McNeil.

The intermediate boys were not in the least discouraged and went to work again with renewed determination. After eight minutes of play the ball was carried across by F. Brown of the Intermediates, and a goal was kicked by H. Chisholm amidst great applause from the younger element.

In the second half the game was furious, each side striving to obtain the deciding point. After much hard play the Juniors again scored but failed to convert the touchdown into a goal. The Intermediate boys tried hard to even up matters but to no avail, and thus matters stood when the whistle stopped the play.

The supporters of both teams were present in force and cheered the opponents to the echo. For the Juniors Rawley, McNeil, Babin and Fraser are deserving of special mention, while F. Brown, H. Chisholm, P. Brown and C. Morse for the Intermediates proved to all to be men of no mean ability.

J. R. Power refereed the games to the satisfaction of all.

#### HOCKEY.

The hockey season is yet far off, but already much interest is being displayed concerning the winter's work.

The great success attending last year's trip abroad and the favorable impressions made upon all sides by our boys has done much to foster this well deserved interest.

Although the team has lost three of its best players, yet we think it will still be able to cope with sturdy opponents.

So now boys get out your skates and with the first ice begin that hard practice which alone will crown you with success.

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#### EXCHANGES.

The first of our sister journals to find its way to our sanctum this year is the September number of the University of Ottawa Review, which arrived while our October number was in press, so that we have been unable to refer to it sooner. In its opening pages it has a very interesting and instructive article, entitled "Aubrey de Vere as a Sonneteer." It is handled in a masterly way, and the writer is deserving of credit for the manner in which he brings out the adaptability of the English tongue to the production of real poetry. Then showing what a good sonnet should be in spirit and form, he begins his comment upon the sonnet structure and work of Aubrey de Vere, which, if continued in the style of the first, will be something worth reading.

The Review contains a couple of good stories; and although, in our humble opinion, sufficient space is not given to the record of college doings, it is on the whole worthy of praise.

Our next visitor is the Argosy. It comes out this year in a somewhat improved form, but we are disappointed on scanning its contents. To devote such a large amount of space to the class of '99 is, to say the least, to rob it of its interest for the general run of readers. In an article entitled "Ties Growing Stronger" there seems to be insinuated against the Canadian Government a charge of disloyalty

which is not very well founded. Now if there is one thing more than another which a college journal should avoid it is all interference in politics.

One redeeming feature of the *Argosy* is the column headed "The Library Table," which, if carried out as well as it is begun in the present issue, ought to have considerable influence for good.

The other exchanges received are: The *Weekly Bouquet*, *North West Review*, and the *L' Oiseau Mouche*.

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#### THOUGHTS ON THE WAR.

War with all its horrors has once more burst forth. Scarcely have the losses of our last war been estimated, when another, which threatens to be more protracted and bloody, engages our attention.

Such is the result of the differences that arise between nations. These differences have existed, and will exist so long as statesmen are determined to uphold the rights of their countries. But this should not imply continual warfare, for happily there is another tribunal, to which we can refer our disputes; and by this tribunal it is to be hoped all nations will in future seek to adjust their grievances.

But some say, "Why do we not now settle our differences by arbitration?" An attempt has been made to establish a permanent court of arbitration, to which all nations should submit their disputes; but the promoters of so worthy a project had not correctly gauged the strength of the opposing torrent of greed and inhumanity that has swept away almost every vestige of their labors.

For the establishment of such a tribunal, it is necessary that the forces opposing it be lessened and the most effective means to this end is that our children be taught their duties to God and society. The school-boys of to-day are our future statesmen, philosophers, and churchmen; and the manner in which they will influence society depends upon the nature of the training they receive in youth. If our youth be trained as Christians, our governments will be directed by statesmen

who will respect the rights of others and rule according to the dictates of justice and humanity. Then and only then can we hope to see a permanent court of arbitration and all nations abiding by its decisions.

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### PERSONALS.

In our reference last issue to St. F. X. boys we inadvertently omitted the name of H. H. Hayes, our business editor of last year. At present he holds a position in the House of Commons, Ottawa. Dame Rumor has it that we may expect him again in our midst—unless the election comes off in the near future.

Our genial friend, R. A. J. McIsaac, B. A. '99, paid our sanctum a visit a few days ago. We shall be pleased to see our old friends when in town.

Brother Hilary, representing the Ave Maria, spent a few days at St. F. X. College, in the interest of the aforesaid paper.

Mr. Edmund Babatille, ecclesiastical student of Memramcook, received Minor Orders in the College chapel on the 14th inst. He will be raised to the priesthood on the 21st, after which he will go to Arichat as curate of the very Rev. Dr. Quinan, V. G.

Rev. H. McPherson, P. P., L'Ardoise, spent a few days at the College.

Rev. Father McDougall, P. P., Thorburn, who this year is spiritual adviser of the students, delivered an instructive lesson on Obedience on the occasion of his last visit. The boys look forward with much interest to his weekly visits.

Many of our readers may be pleased to hear that A. McInnes, a student of the class of '97 is following the example of the hero of Manila, and taking to himself a wife. Uncle Sam's fair daughters must be rather attractive.

The members of the A. S. L. have been robbing the god of sleep lately, as they spend a large part of the night "stargazing."

Adolphus Bernasconi met with a painful accident while playing foot ball, and is now confined to his room; but we trust that he may be soon again in our midst.

## DEBATING SOCIETY.

Although we have not as yet said anything about the Debating Society it must not be supposed that our silence is due to want of subject matter. We have this year a debating society which, we may safely say, equals, if not surpasses, any organized in the College for many years. The keen interest taken in the discussion by the members, and the manner in which they prepare and put forth their arguments prove that they fully realize the importance of being able to think and to express themselves freely and well. The subjects chosen for debate this year have been live, up to date questions; and the able manner in which they are discussed, together with the knowledge shown by our debaters of the principal wants of the day, show us that they are all well posted and up to date men.

We do not propose to mention here the individual speakers; to do so would require an amount of space greater than that at our disposal. A few, however, are deserving of special mention, notably Mr. D. P. Floyd, to whose ever ready eloquence we owe many very pointed, and pleasing speeches. The logic of H. Y. is placed in pleasing contrast to the flowing oratory of Mr. Floyd, and both serve to inspire our debaters with that courage which is requisite for bringing out the powers of the young rhetorician. By such men as the above, we have no doubt that English law will be ably expounded. But we must not forget Dan, who with his ready wit and cutting argument is an able representative of the Sophomore class. Among the new men, McIntosh deserves mention for his excellent defense of "intercollegiate debating." If other new men would take courage like him, we would have a much better and still more interesting debate. It is not necessary to prolong to any greater length this individual consideration, suffice to say, that if the interest continues, we shall have the most successful debates ever held in St. F. X. College.

Since the organization of the club, we have had but one entertainment, which, however, was very successful. Its

principal features were the choruses, and recitations, by our well known singers, and elocutionists. It was also characterized by the instrumental music of the violin, organ and harmonica. Judging from the talent exhibited at this entertainment, we think that there is good material at college this year for a first-class orchestra. All that is needed is someone to "set the ball a rolling," and judging from the strains proceeding from the junior recreation hall lately, that person has already appeared.

Recently the debating club held a mock trial. L. E. was accused of defrauding the institution by acting the magician and turning too much into himself. Alex. did the judge's part to perfection, and Dan ably performed the duties of clerk of the court. The prosecuting attorneys brought a strong case against L. E., but the able lawyers for the defense succeeded in getting him off "scot free." During the trial the prisoner seemed to labor under a very severe mental strain, if one might judge from his unnatural paleness. In fact it was rumored that he contemplated woeful things, in case the jury returned an unfavorable verdict.



## ON THE HOP.

Boer. Power cannot win Ladysmith. Leo(n) is still master of the situation.

General O'D. (from a safe position in rear): Hold the post!

If you wish to have your books covered, lose them. For further information, apply to T. J. B.

Say O'T. are you captain of the foot ball team? N-o-o, they degenerated me, I mean ejected.

What is the matter with the second team? They ought to be first, they did up the Powers.

Mac is drilling the Hoodlums, but Kruger (McI.) holds the pass.

Chicago is going to send a regiment to the Transvaal. Armour & Co. want to kill some Boers.

In class. (Window up. Horse neighs in a field near by.)  
Absent-minded professor, shaking his fist at dumfounded student: Don't you do that again sir; don't you do it.

Scene—Middle Dormitory.

Time—10.05 p. m., Hallowe'en.

## ACT I.

Raw.—Say, Bab., where did you put the salmon?

Bab.—Under the pillow.

Berna—Is it that the prefects are asleep?

Raw.—No, but there is no doubt but that we can bribe them.

## ACT II.

Bab.—Hello, are you asleep?

D. P. (prefect)—No; qui vive?

Bab.—Me.

D. P.—Who is me?

Bab.—Say, will you have some crackers and cheese?

D. P.—I don't mind; I am just feeling for a little lunch.

(Strategy has won the night!)

## ACT III.

Refreshments on the coils, big time; nightmare; sleeping-in.  
McI. is KillyKenny.

For key to above jokes (?) apply to our literary H—A—C.



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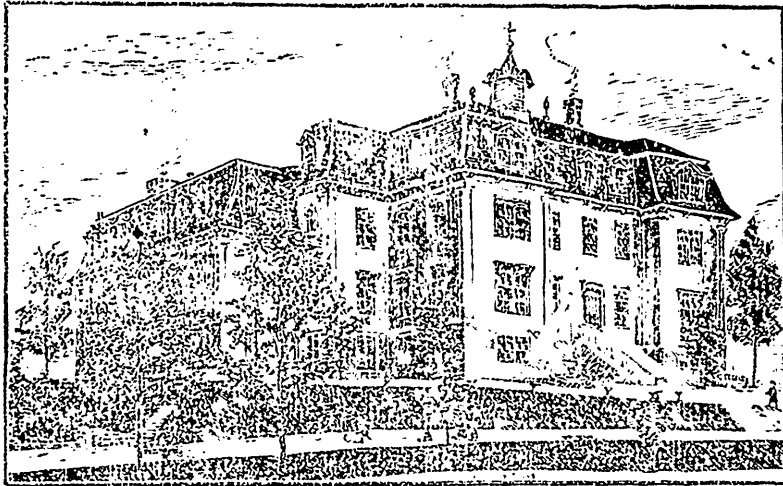
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