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THE 'VARSITY:

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF

EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY POLITICS AND EVENTS.

Vol. V.

TORONTO, November 8, 1884.

No. 3.

Editorial Notes.

The friends of the 'VARSITY can very materially advance the interests of their paper by patronizing those business men who advertise in our columns. Whenever other things are equal, or even nearly so, a decided preference should be given to the merchants and others who use the 'VARSITY as a means of advertising.

It is to be admitted that in many cases of disagreement between the students of a college and the faculty, the fault clearly lies with the former. Being human, students are not exceptions to the old law, "*humanum est errare.*" Neither, however, are professors, and the cause of the recent disturbances at King's College, N. S., seems to be, as far as present evidence goes, the arbitrary and contemptuous treatment of the students by the principal himself. If this is the case, it is evident that that official labors under the impression that colleges exist for the benefit, not of the students, but of the faculty—a very serious misapprehension, certainly, but one that is unfortunately not altogether unprecedented.

Comparing great things with small, the Russian Government, like the police of Toronto, seem determined to put down students with a strong hand. Nearly one thousand students were recently expelled from the University of Kiev and sentenced to military service in penal regiments stationed in distant regions of the empire. The grounds alleged for this severe treatment were that the students showed strong indications of disaffection towards the government. It is a stupid way of dealing with these matters surely, to punish disaffected persons with such barbaric severity rather than to seek out and remove the cause of the disaffection. A *prima facie* case is made out against the government which finds it necessary to treat as criminals the most intelligent class of its citizens—the class whose special feature is that they have too much enlightenment to submit passively to arbitrary power, by whomsoever exercised.

The appearance of Rev. Principal Nelles at Trinity College the other day presents another phase in the university question. That Dr. Nelles, the President of a Methodist University, should have taken part in a gathering of the supporters of that section of the Anglican communion always considered to be hostile to Methodism, may have surprised some people. Still more, may his speech delivered on that occasion, and his advice to all members of the Church of England to "rally around Trinity College," have been puzzling and perplexing. But we understand these circumstances to mean simply this: The outlying Colleges and Universities intend to unite, at least in feeling and opinion, in their determination to enter any proposed Confederation of Colleges not as mere Theological Schools, but as thoroughly equipped and first-class Arts Colleges. Why there should be any opposition to a scheme for a Confederation of Colleges such

as at Oxford and Cambridge, where proficiency is the only known and recognized rivalry, is very strange to us.

In view of the recent discussions upon the question of State aid to denominational colleges, the subjoined expression of opinion is most valuable. The fact that this opinion comes from a body of men both exceedingly capable of forming a correct opinion on the matter, and in presumption entirely unprejudiced regarding it, furnishes a strong argument to those who oppose the granting of State aid to those institutions.—"While this Association sympathizes with those churches which have heroically founded and cheerfully sustained denominational colleges at great sacrifice in the early history of our country, still it is the opinion of this Association that to grant State aid to such institutions would be out of harmony with the educational progress of the province of Ontario, as well as detrimental to their own spiritual interests." This resolution was carried unanimously, in the Central Association of Congregational Ministers and Churches assembled last week at Pine Grove.

At the first meeting of the present session of the Canadian Institute, held on Saturday evening last, two of our Professors presented the results of their summer's work. Prof. Young gave remarkably simple proofs of the well known theorems of Galois and Kronecker, the demonstrations of which have up to the present been very obscure. Prof. Young's greatest discovery, however, is the solution of quintic equations. This problem, which has baffled the greatest mathematicians for years, and which has hitherto been attacked by means of a resolvent sextic, has at length been solved without the aid of a sextic. The author first deduces the conditions under which the equation is solvable and then actually solves the problem. At the same meeting Prof. Loudon explained a new method of discussing the properties of thick lenses, which is also applicable to the case of thin lenses. His method consists in imagining there to be two axes instead of one—an object axis and an image axis—and by separating these axes and imagining them to intersect at different points, the investigation of the properties reduces to that of some simple properties in Analytical Geometry. With such able scholars as these on our staff surely there can be nothing but the most brilliant future for our University. It might be added that J. C. Glashan, of Ottawa, a well known mathematician, and an undergraduate of Toronto University, has, simultaneously with Dr. Young, arrived at the same results by a totally different method. We understand that both the papers referred to above are to be published in the *Canadian Journal* as well as in the *American Journal of Mathematics*. The achievements of Professors Young and Loudon will do much to increase the reputation of University College at home and abroad. At least two members of our faculty had previously acquired continental if not European distinction. The possibilities before University College in this line several years ago, however, were even greater than have been realized. It is stated that Thomas Huxley once vainly applied for a position on our staff, and more recently, through the inscrutable wisdom of our Educational Office, the now famous Grant Allan was a rejected applicant.

STUDENTS AND POLICE.

The attitude of the police force towards the students of the city cannot be too highly censured. Other bodies of people may and do parade the streets with all forms of clamour and tumult, not only without molestation from the police, but actually under police protection. It is, then, an outrage upon all justice that students should be compelled to submit to insult and arrest because they also occasionally march in procession to the singing of some of their members. We have heard many citizens say that they were rather pleased than otherwise at these occasional demonstrations, and as the police derive their power solely from the people, it would almost appear that their treatment of the students is quite *ultra vires*.

It is no defence of the discrimination made by the police force against students to say that the other bodies and societies conduct their parades from good motives. For the motive of the students is also a good one. No one can say that the desire for harmless enjoyment is a bad motive. Sometimes these processions are accidental, as when a number of students chance to meet at the theatre and naturally walk home together. And even whenever they have any other motive than the one we have mentioned, it is the quite justifiable desire to assert a right which the police seem inclined to deny them—the right to walk together at all.

Moreover, if the usual noises made by processions be a cause for offence, they still remain noises, whatever may be the motive from which they are made. And further, although such demonstrations as those of the Salvation Army are very shocking to many good people who regard them as irreverent and blasphemous, and although the playing of Orange tunes must be highly offensive to very many of our citizens, yet the police do not interfere, for well they know that their interference would not be tolerated. And yet for singing a few harmless songs that offend nobody and amuse many, students are dogged around the streets by a too officious police, and if they resent such injustice they are clubbed and dragged away to the cells.

We would suggest to the Police Department that their men might be better employed. On that very night (Friday), it is reported that a citizen fought and struggled with a foot-pad for half an hour on Portland street, while another went for police assistance, which could not be obtained, probably because policemen who should have been minding their own business were meddling with that of students. During last week also, three burglaries at least, were committed in connection with which no arrests were made. These facts tend to show that if the energy of our police force be not entirely an imaginary quantity, it is at all events badly misdirected. It would be evident, too, to any one, always excepting Toronto policemen, that the persons who most require looking after just now are not those who parade the streets singing harmless songs.

THE 'VARSITY does not attempt to defend rowdism. On the contrary, we shall denounce most emphatically any conduct by students which would tend to reflect discredit on Toronto University or the affiliated colleges. We regret that there should be reason to suppose that on Monday evening certain individual students were guilty of exceedingly reprehensible conduct. Legitimate recreation is one thing, but unseemly howling, coarse language and other insults to pedestrians are quite another. There is no defence for such conduct. If, however, the general behavior of the members of the procession was too uproarious, there was at least some excuse for it. The attack by the police on Friday night was entirely unwarrantable, and was the great ground of provocation for Monday night's demonstration.

If students wish occasionally to march in procession there seems to be no good reason why they should not continue to do so. If they choose to sing, so much the better. But only let it be singing, and for the credit of the University, let all imbecile howling and other misbehavior receive the strong disapproval of the whole body and it will soon cease. The chagrin of the police at not being able to find a pretext for arrest would furnish amusement enough for one night, and there would be no risk of injury to the reputation either of students or of their *alma mater*.

WHAT A COLLEGE JOURNAL SHOULD BE.

An interesting controversy as to the aim and scope of college journalism has been going on recently between some non-college journals in the United States. Representing one theory the *Boston Globe* contends that the principal aim should be to fill the college paper with "accounts of college sporting events, sketches of college experiences, and bright, gossipy bits of literary work, which may not give such an appearance of learning as the crude essays on the origin of man or the Platonic philosophy, which fill the columns of many college journals, but which are vastly more entertaining." The *Chicago Current*, holding to a very different theory, thinks the college paper should be the exponent of the best and maturest thought of the institution, including that of the teachers as well as that of the students. "Either the college journal," says the *Current*, "should be a college product to be proud of, or it should be abandoned. And as it is easily possible to make it thoroughly representative of college aims, college opinion, and college culture, as it is of college sports and college humor, without sacrificing any of these features, it should most assuredly, for the benefit of both college and student, be made so."

While there is no doubt something to be said in favor of the former of these views, I confess my very decided preference for the latter. Why should not, for instance, the opinion of Dr. Eliot as to what constitutes a truly liberal university course have been first given to the world in a representative Harvard College journal, instead of an address at a rival university afterwards reprinted as a magazine article? There are many important questions connected with the functions of the "university" in general that are still undecided, and this remark is peculiarly applicable to our own University in particular. Is its constitution capable of being greatly improved, and what are the lessons of thirty years' experience on this point? Are we right in permitting any man, even one, suppose, who takes only a pass course, to take a degree in Arts without knowing Greek? Is increased differentiation of honor work desirable—as, *e. g.*, the separation between mathematics and physics in the fourth year, the proposed separation between chemistry, geology and biology, and the projected new department of historical and political science? Is it expedient to attach history to the honor department of modern languages, and if it is not, then where should honor history be placed? What relative value should be assigned in the study of Latin and Greek to the philological, the literary, and the mythological motive? In the modern language department, should the chief aim be to acquire facility in the practical use of the languages as at present written and spoken; or to study their development from older forms of speech; or to regard them as the caskets of literary treasures that are accessible only to one who holds the linguistic key? Should the curriculum for the entrance examination be easy or hard? Should it be regarded chiefly as a preparation for the subsequent university course, or as giving direction to the work of secondary education generally throughout the Province? Should there be any distinction of sex kept in view in framing the university statutes; or should the aim be to prescribe the course of study and the kind of examinations best adapted for intellectual training, and allow all who choose to take advantage of them? Should the matriculation examination be decentralized; and, if so, should the subsequent examinations be similarly treated? What amount of attention should be paid to old English, both language and literature? Under our system how can examinations and lectures be made to harmonize without appointing lecturers as examiners?

These and other questions of an intensely practical kind suggest an infinity of topics of the greatest importance, some of which can be settled satisfactorily only after it is known how they are regarded from the intelligent students' point of view. It seems to me that the college journal is just the place for their discussion, and if it ignores them it fails to fulfil one of its most important functions. Some of them have been discussed in the columns of the 'Varsity in past years, and I have read all the contributions from the students with much interest. But what about the views of others: of those who having graduated

and had some experience of practical life are in a position to revise their earlier estimates of the University course; of those who look at these questions from the teachers', not the students', point of view; of those who are entrusted with the control and direction of the University and College? Let us hear occasionally from all these classes on subjects in which we are all deeply interested, and which are forever cropping up in the path of educational progress whether we pay attention to them or not. No settlement of them can be final, but an earnest and general discussion of them in a representative college journal cannot fail, if it does nothing more, to foster the *esprit de corps* which, I sometimes fear, is too much lacking amongst the members of Toronto University, and amongst students and ex-students of University College.

WM. HOUSTON.

A REVIEW.

A book well worth reading, if only for the attempt made to give expression to the inexpressible, is "The Autobiography of My Heart," (London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1883), by Richard Jefferies. Interesting, and yet exasperating, it contains some fine aspirations and poetic descriptions, as well as a good deal that can only be described as sheer nonsense.

The idea of the author seems to be to lay bare his inmost soul, and to give expression to those strange feelings and vague yearnings that, probably, sometimes sweep over the natures of most of us, when influenced by grand scenery, music, &c. The existence of these feelings seems to have suggested to Mr. Jefferies the possibility of a new condition of existence—a "soul-life"—something more complete, above and beyond, any mere physical, intellectual, moral or religious existence: in his own words—

"A great life, an entire civilization, lies just outside the pale of common thought. . . . There is an entity, a soul entity, as yet unrecognized. . . . There is an immense ocean over which the mind can sail, upon which the vessel of thought has not yet been launched. I hope to launch it."

He describes in language, which, if often exaggerated and high-strung, is at times beautiful and poetic, the intensity of his feelings when in communion with nature, and his desire to grasp this new existence, or "soul-life." Although to ordinary mortals he must appear to be striving after the unattainable, his meaning (so far as it is possible to get at it) must be looked for in his own words—

"Lying down on the grass I spoke in my soul to the earth, the sun, the air, and the distant sea far beyond sight * * * * By all these I prayed; I felt an emotion of the soul beyond all definition; prayer is a puny thing to it, and the word is a rude sign of the feeling, but I know no other * * * * I see now that what I labored for was soul-nature, to be exalted, to be full of soul-learning."

But of even more importance, in this new existence, than communion with nature, is the appreciation of the human form divine. Divine beauty is to bring to ourselves the divine soul, whether this beauty be of the "Swart Nubian, white Greek, delicate Italian, or massive Scandinavian." Apparently it is impossible to have too keen an appreciation of beauty. In another passage our author expressed the modest desire—"I should like to be loved by every beautiful woman on earth, from the swart Nubian to the white and divine Greek."

As a consequence of recognizing so clearly our inner consciousness, time merges into eternity—"Now is eternity; now is immortal life * * * * To the soul there is no past and no future; all is, and will be ever, in now. For artificial purposes time is agreed on, but there is really no such thing. The shadow goes on upon the dial, the index moves round upon the clock, and what is the difference? None whatever. If the clock had never been set going what would have been the difference? There may be time for the clock, the clock may make time for itself, there is none for me."

It is not surprising after this to find the author asserting that all men have missed the true method of life, that all our education is a mistake, our boasted civilization a mere nonentity. Both evolutionists and those who recognize in the universe the design of a Creator are wrong: "Nothing is evolved. There is no evolution any more than there is any design in nature. By standing face to face with nature, and not from books, I have convinced myself that there is no design and no evolution." In regard to the accumulated knowledge of ages he remarks—"An enumera-

tion of the useless would almost be an enumeration of everything hitherto pursued. . . . There is a mass of knowledge so called at the present day equally useless, and nothing but an encumbrance."

Notwithstanding the many wild extravagances, hardly anyone, with an imaginative mind, who reads this book, can fail to be impressed with some of its ideas and descriptions of states of mind, though there is much that is absurd, and not a little that is morbid. The book at least is the work of a man of poetic temperament, but when the author suggests that we should remodel our lives on these vague principles, and cast aside our present knowledge and intellectual existence, it is hard to avoid doubting whether the book be not written as a hoax, while, perhaps, the more charitable supposition may be that the author has become crazed over his transcendent thoughts. But I think the book well worth reading if only for its peculiarities and its poetical prose. As an example of the latter turn to the last few pages, from which the following Swinburnian passage is quoted:—"Sweet is the bitter sea by the shore where the faint blue pebbles are lapped by the green-gray wave, where the wind-quivering foam is loath to leave the lashed stone. Sweet is the bitter sea, and the clear green in which the gaze seeks the soul, looking through the glass into itself. The sea thinks for me as I listen and ponder: the sea thinks and every boom of the wave repeats my prayer."

After all, can the book be intended as an elaborate satire on Mr. Swinburne and his school of poetry?

Fort Macleod, N.W.T.

X. Y. Z.

PETERBOROUGH CONVENTION.

For the past three years no large convention of Y. M. C. A. workers has been held in Canada. Accordingly it was with considerable anxiety that the members of the executive committee of Ontario and Quebec associations awaited the meetings and discussions of this convention. But their minds were set at rest by the appearance of over sixty delegates. Indeed Peterborough is peculiarly fitted for a successful meeting. The beauty of the place lends a charm to all proceedings, while the energetic action of the officials and the marked hospitality of the inhabitants eminently qualifies it for a centre of any Christian movement.

On Thursday, Oct. 23rd, the Convention was opened with devotional exercises, after which various reports were heard. In the evening hearty words of welcome were extended to the delegates, and thus from the very beginning a unity was consummated that existed unbroken to the end.

Friday morning there was the dull necessary routine of report-receptions and official elections. But Friday afternoon was, to the college students at least, the crowning day of the Convention. Then it was that college work was the sole topic of discussion.

Queen's College was represented by Messrs. Gandier and McNaughton. In a concise form they narrated the progress of the past. Space forbids a detailed account of the evangelical work, but it is energetic and has been crowned with eminent success.

Messrs. Unworth and Kendall represented McGill College, but the past record of their institution was dark. Well-grounded hope for the future was the characteristic of their report. A totally different result from that of past years is fearlessly predicted for the coming year. One of the delegates longed to adopt the suggestion of a co-worker of his and take up as an appropriate motto "McGill for Christ."

Owing to the unavoidable detention of Mr. R. Garside, University College was represented by only one delegate, Mr. A. J. McLeod. He presented a report of the doings of this association, explaining the nature of the weekly meetings and the tri-weekly teachings in the News Boys' Home. Truly the record was no disgrace. Yet it is not till a delegate is set face to face with the possibilities of college work that he comprehends the utter deficiency of University College Y. M. C. A. There appeared to be the liveliest interest manifested in college work as well by the other delegates as by the friends assembled to hear the representatives. We believe that it is only in late years that the public are beginning to grasp the greatness of college work. At the Friday evening meeting Mr. Morse, of New York, gave a most entertaining and profitable description of his journey to the

World's Conference held last year in Berlin. In 1855 the first World's Conference assembled in Paris, and since that date similar meetings have been conducted triennially in one of the prominent cities of Europe. Last year the tenth Triennial Conference was held in Germany. 231 delegates were present, and of this number 46 were from our continent. Mr. Morse traced the development of this organization and alluded to some of the mountain difficulties in the way of Christian work on the Continent.

Saturday was devoted by the College delegates mainly to private discussions of work in the various colleges. Eagerly the question was reiterated, how can our associations become more efficient? The conclusions were that for this end the individual members of our associations should become one even as our Great Superiors are one. Rivalry or even indifference can overtopple the best of our collegiate associations. Great stress must likewise be laid on the avoidance of dull monotony, or any system of sermonizing in our meetings, or any undue formality. Certain societies make shipwreck on their codes or constitutions. Something after the nature of a civil war occurs, and in the process of a fiery discussion, the association passes into oblivion. As yet, however, the essential point is untouched. The lamentable lack of zeal in College work is undoubtedly caused by a deep-seated ignorance of the magnitude and importance of College work. On the continent of America we have 181 College Associations. During the past seven years 70,000 men graduated from these halls with no pretensions to religion, and if carefully prepared statistics are reliable in this case only 1400 of these men, *i. e.* one from every fifty, will ever be embraced within the Christian church. To-day these Colleges have over 37,000 students attending lectures. Of this number 12,500 make a profession of Christianity, while double this number or 25,000 are non-religious men. The bare facts plainly show the necessity for increased activity in each of the 181 College Associations. Sunday was the closing day of the convention, and may be considered as the grandest day of them all. Various meetings were held at early hours and during the morning service many of the delegates were appointed to make short addresses to the different congregations. In the afternoon there was a mass meeting for young men, and the benign influence of that meeting was wide-spread. At the close of the evening service a farewell meeting was held and many of the delegates vividly painted their impressions in one-sentence speeches. The large Methodist church in which the meetings were held was filled to the door. Towards the close of the meeting the assembly united their voices in murmuring the petition promulgated by the Head of the church many centuries ago. Then the delegates, with united hands, sang the parting hymn known to all conventions:

"Blessed be the tie that binds
Our hearts in christian love,
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above."

So the Peterborough convention was ended. Its members may soon pass from the recollection of the kind people of Peterborough, but we have no doubt but that the beneficial effects of these gatherings will be sent down to the very latest moment of time.

HE CAUGHT A STUDENT.

At last the Peeler is happy and rejoices. He has demonstrated his usefulness. He will continue to live upon the fat of the land and walk the streets in the best clothes it can afford, with no one, henceforth, to question his *raison d'être*.

True, he has seldom been heard from, not often seen in his place, and never when wanted. True, some have doubted his worth. But, then, did he not with a huge rope pull his Buffalo brother, not quite so corpulent as himself, a few inches across a given line? Was not this glory enough? "Alas! for the rarity of human charity!" Some were still dubious. A few citizens in their secret hearts dared wish for even further evidence of active existence. They were being robbed in the streets, their houses pillaged, their lives endangered, and the idea began to grow that somehow, in the original constitution of things, a city police had a slight duty in that direction,

When a man was murdered in a central ward by the coarsest and most brutal of means, there were those who thought a policeman ought to have happened around sometime during the next six hours. When a safe was shattered by an explosion which brought from their beds the entire community, it just occurred to some to wonder why the warder on his beat alone was undisturbed.

As time went on it seemed as though the victory of the hempen rope would be forgotten in the midst of aggravated and accumulated crime. The sun of the Peeler's glory was surely sinking; ere long he would be "lost to use and name and fame."

But patience is his great virtue, it endureth while his salary remaineth. The stolid statue walked the street as of old, only, if possible, more impassive than before. As of old he met the cop on next beat, and the two moved on together for the greater security of—the Peelers of Toronto.

Crime grew apace. Citizens began to think each of the best means of securing safety for himself. As night set in with the barricading of windows and double bolting of doors you might chance to observe in some quiet spot a belted greatcoat whence fell in muffled hum the hopeful refrain,—“There's a better day coming on.” And it came. All Cop-dom is jubilant and shouteth itself hoarse. “Blow, trumpets, blow.” Sound it though all the town. He has, Ye Gods, he has caught a—Student.

True, the student was one of the quietest. But what matters that! He was a student, and he was singing. Oh! the pity of him! he was singing on the Queen's highway. And there were two hundred more of them. Ah, there it is! He might, with impunity, have been drunk, picked pockets, waylaid an alderman, or robbed a house had he been alone or less numerously attended. But, two hundred! Why, that's enough to strike the observation of a Peeler. And his Peeleriship, at last aroused, has a vague idea that something out of the ordinary course of his experience is transpiring. Not quite so sure on the point he follows quietly, and gets the opinion of a second; a third is reached and adds his, a fourth, a fifth. He awakes and apprehends at length that there is a crowd before him, that there is a shout. He even recognises his familiar name of “cop.” Now, now's the time! There, Peeler, is thy last chance. Take now the tide at its turn or be forever stranded. He does. Cop-dom moves, it is alive. With a blind impulse it rushes forth, cutting, slashing, grabbing promiscuously, and so after many days has at last made an effort, has done something, and—caught a student.

And now, thou croaker, thou vile complainer, thou news-man, go to! The Peeler shall not go. Talk not to him of men mysteriously shot in the city's park. Remind him not of booming cannon loaded and fired close to his slumbering ear. Neither these nor rumors of these disturbed him. Let the busy burglar work his will. But know, henceforth, the Peeler is a settled institution. For hath he not in the last twelvemonth pulled a good tug-of-war and caught a student.

University News.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

Owing to the absence of many members in Montreal at the Intercollegiate match, and the occasion of a Public Debate in Knox College, the benches of the Society presented an unwonted paucity of occupants.

The evening of November 21st having been set apart for the discussion of amendments to the Constitution, the following notices were given:—

By J. A. Collins,—That Section 10, Article II., as adopted last year be struck out.

By A. Hamilton,—That order of business now numbered “N” (Roll Call) be numbered “J,” and what are now numbered “J,” “K,” “L,” &c., read “K,” “L,” &c.

By the Treasurer,—That the annual membership fee for the Society be \$1.50.

By H. E. Irwin,—That Sections 1, 2 and 3 be struck out.

Nov. 8, 1884.

Mr. Holmes, in answer to repeated calls, volunteered a reading, "The Old Canoe," which was greatly appreciated by the Society.

The question for debate was, "Resolved, that the experience of the United States confirms the wisdom of the policy of centralizing power in a Federal Government and narrowing the limits of State Rights." The affirmative was sustained by Messrs. H. E. Irwin and T. H. Lennox; the negative by Messrs. W. H. Hunter and J. G. Holmes. The speeches were all extempore, and probably for this reason the remarks shot over the subjects rather than being argumentative.

The Corresponding Secretary presented a communication from Mr. Thomson, requesting the privilege of instituting, under the patronage of the Society, a series of two lectures by the noted astronomer, Mr. Proctor, and two Shakespearian recitals by Mr. Brandram. It is proposed to hold these in Convocation Hall, beginning Nov. 24th. The Society resolved to request permission from the College Council to grant this request.

MODERN LANGUAGE CLUB.

The Modern Language Club met as usual in Moss Hall at 8 p.m. on Tuesday evening. The President, Mr. F. H. Sykes, occupied the chair during the business proceedings. Mr. Sykes having to take part in the literary programme, the chair was taken by Mr. J. Squair, B.A., who ably presided over the meeting, the proceedings of which were conducted in German.

Mr. Sykes opened the literary part of the programme by an essay on Ein deutscher Lyrik-Dichter, which was characterized by lucidity and a complete treatment.

Mr. Squair then favoured the Club with several short selections from *Wallenstein*, which were rendered in such a manner as to call forth the approbation of the meeting.

Mr. S. F. Chamberlain then read an essay on "Heutiges Deutschland" (modern Germany), giving a brilliant description of the political and war complications of Germany during the last two or three decades.

The last part of the programme, the discussion on the works of Fouqué, was then proceeded with. The discussion was opened by Mr. Squair, and was continued by Messrs. Sykes, McPherson, Chamberlain and others. The work which attracted most attention was *Undine*, all the speakers being of opinion that it is an ideal work of its kind, exhibiting in the author an imagination highly poetical.

After a very pleasant and instructive meeting, the Club adjourned a short time after the usual hour. Before adjourning it was announced that Mr. Houston, M.A., Librarian of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, would be present at the English meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 11th, and would deliver an address on "The study of English." A general welcome is extended to all the students of the College to attend, as a very interesting and instructive address may be expected from Mr. Houston.

NATURAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

The next meeting of this society will be held next Tuesday evening in the School of Practical Science. The meeting will be characterized by a paper on "Statical Electricity" by T. Proctor Hall, Esq., B.A., and a paper by Mr. T. H. Lennox. The election of a new Secretary will take place as well as nominations for 2nd year representative on the general committee. A full attendance of the members is very desirable. Proceedings begin at 8 o'clock sharp. The members of the general committee will please to come half an hour earlier for a business meeting.

Y. M. C. A.

The meeting of this Association this week was addressed by Hon. S. H. Blake, Q.C. Though the day was a holiday the room was comfortably filled.

Mr. Blake took for the theme of his address "Manhood," and pointed out the elements entering into the character of the true man. Of old it had been said, "*Præmulti homines, vires perpauca.*" It had been said to Jeremiah: "Seek if ye can find me a man." God had created man in his own image and when man lost that image, He sent the Man Christ to exhibit it to him. Christ as the perfect man had a definite aim in life. He "must be about His Father's business." God's will was His, Christ's life exhibited the virtue of *obedience*. Successful men are those who have learned to obey, to subject themselves to control until perfect mastery of self has been obtained. The Perfect Man manifested in his life *humility*. He who would write "Excelsior" on his life must first have written "humilior" in his heart. The Saviour King washed

His disciples' feet and taught that true greatness was to be sought in service. This man was *diligent*. "He went about doing good." As His life was so ought ours, to be full of activity, urging us on from the completion of one task to the beginning of another. A very noticeable trait of this perfect character was *consideration for others*. He was the noblest of gentlemen. Self was lost sight of in efforts for the happiness of others. Christ was *generous and helpful*, never abandoning a friend in distress. He never sought the society of the rich and powerful but of the poor and weak. Our Exemplar was a good citizen. The true Christianity leads a man to submit himself to law, "to render to Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's." A life strengthened and rounded is the most convincing argument in proof of the reality of faith. In all these respects Christ is set before us for imitation. As we grow in likeness to Him we become the truer and better men.

VARSAITY SPORTS.

The chief topic of interest in football circles this week has been the Magill match of to-day. Had the game taken place three weeks ago instead of to-day the 'Varsity team would have gone down to Montreal, with the chances of winning increased by their own confidence in their ability to win; for undoubtedly the recent trouble and dissatisfaction among the members of both the club and team and the lack of anything approaching brilliant or even first-class play in the past few matches cannot fail to have injured their chances of winning, as estimated by both the team themselves and their supporters.

The matches of the past week have been as follows:

Saturday, 1st, 'Varsity vs. Guelph Agricultural College (Rugby). Result, 'Varsity, 19; G.A.C., 0.

Wednesday, 5th, 'Varsity vs. Trinity (Rugby). Result, 'Varsity, 2; Trinity 1.

Thursday, 6th, 'Varsity vs. Galt F.B.C. (Ass'n). Result, 'Varsity, 1; Galt, 2.

TRINITY GAME.

In past years the 'Varsity have been accustomed to console themselves for the superiority which Trinity have always shown over them in cricket, by exhibiting an equal superiority over Trinity in Rugby Foot Ball. This year the recognized order of things has been somewhat interfered with, and instead of the Trinity v. 'Varsity match being a win for the latter, it has according to the method of decision adapted by the Rugby Union, turned out a tie, the score at the conclusion of the game on Wednesday standing, 'Varsity 2, Trinity 1.

The 'Varsity played a hand considerably weakened by the absence from it of Messrs. Elliott, J. S. McLean, and Thompson. Had these men been in their place the result instead of being a draw, without any doubt, considering the evenness of the teams as it was, would have been more satisfactory.

On the 'Varsity team McCulloch, McLaren, Senkler, Scott, and Mustard deserve to be mentioned for excellent playing, Mustard's kicking, and especially one drop on the Trinity goal, which had we been allowed to decide, would have added six points to the 'Varsity score, stamp him as a reliable and very useful half-back. He strengthened the team where it was very much in need of it.

VARSAITY ASSOCIATION TEAM IN GALT.

By invitation of the Galt F.B.C. the Association team journeyed to Galt on Thursday last and participated in the annual tournament of that enterprising club. After a pleasant two hours' run up the Credit and a dinner at the Queen's, both thoroughly enjoyed, the field was reached, and in the presence of an audience upwards of one thousand the 'Varsity team took their places.

With the usual ill-luck attendant on the individual who looked after the toss of the copper, the 'Varsity during the first half time were compelled to face the wind which was blowing strong from the north. To attempt to follow the ball as it was carried up and down the field would be impossible, and were it possible, uninteresting. The forwards of both teams were about equal. Their play was fast, and, considering the high wind, good. The 'Varsity won the only goal at the match, McKay putting the ball through shortly before the termination of the last half.

Where all played well it would be unfair to discriminate, but even the forwards will admit the correctness of our saying that to the backs and half-backs belong the honors of the day. From first to last Owen, Sliter, Jackson and Hogarth, played a faultless game. A set of forwards fairly winning a goal against them will have to work for it.

Through the entire match the 'Varsity played a game which entitles them to the credit of being, what their admirers know them to be, the equal of any team in Ontario to-day.

We record with pleasure the amicable settlement of the difficulties among the members of the Rugby club, referred to in our columns of last week. Second thoughts with the dissatisfied members were the best, a very little consideration showing them the unwisdom of their action. At the adjourned meeting of the one referred to in our last issue, the want of confidence motion was rescinded by an almost unanimous vote, and the committee asked to re-consider their resignation, which they did, withdrawing it.

Opinions differ on the majority of subjects, and in the merits of certain Rugby football players, and in their right over others to a place on the team, there is room for difference of opinion, and, as we are assured by certain members of the committee, whose assertions we have respect for, that the choosing of the first ten was done with very little difference of opinion being shown, we are forced, giving as we do, the committee credit for knowing what good playing really is, into believing that the committee have done their work actuated by right motives.

FOOTBALL NOTES.

The Association Committee are trying to arrange a match with Queen's University Club, to be played on the lawn about the 15th inst.

DI-VARSITIES.

Mr. Brimer remarks that the Personals in the 'Varsity are very interesting to him. *He likes to know where last year's grads. are.*

"Adieu," she said sweetly as he kissed her good night. "He's adieu'd ain't he," sang out her little brother as he vanished up stairs.

The assistants in the library have been made the recipients of very handsome, costly, and appropriate souvenirs. The librarian has presented them each with a paperknife and a nice new automatic lead pencil, with the assurance that, if they are very good little boys, they may keep the automatic pencils after their term of office expires.

WHAT ARE WE COMING TO? Scene at Glee Club meeting: *Business-like Freshie*: "Is this the Glee Club?" *Respectful Seniors*: "It is." *Business-like Freshie*: "Going to have practice?" *Respectful Seniors*: "We are." *Business-like Freshie*: "Who've ye got for conductor?" *Respectful Seniors*: "Mr. Torrington." *Business-like Freshie*: "Hey? Torrington? H'm! O, guess he'll do." Freshie enters, sits down with his hat on, and eyes the assembled seniors with complacency. General hum of delight amongst respectful crowd of seniors at the satisfaction displayed by B. L. Freshie. One Senior is, however, heard to exclaim: "I'll tap him, great Scott!"

PERSONALS.

Mr. A. J. Leslie has entered a law-office in Kincardine.

M. J. P. McMurrich, who was noticed last week as having gone to Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed Lecturer at that institution on the Comparative Anatomy of the Vertebrata. The position is one greatly in advance of what Mr. McMurrich occupied at Guelph.

College News.

KNOX COLLEGE.

Hallowe'en passed by without the occurrence of anything unusual. Those aerial people who are supposed to hold high carnival on this night failed to make any deep impression upon the slumbers of the students, though there are those who assert that the air was filled with ominous reports about the ghostly hour of midnight. By the way, the statements that the windows in the west end of the College were shattered by the report of the Russian guns, and that the occupants of thirty-one were prostrated by the shock, are without foundation.

The Hebrew scholarship offered for competition to the class entering theology, has been divided between Messrs. J. McGilivray, B.A., and A. E. Doherty.

Our enterprising scientific friend of the lower flat has succeeded in enriching his cabinet by the addition of some half dozen rare natural history specimens. Number ten is bound to keep in the front.

The classes in elocution close this week. The students are unanimous in pronouncing Prof. Neff an admirable exponent of the only genuine system of teaching oratory. We hope to see practical results of his instruction.

The various meetings of the first convention of the Inter-Collegiate Missionary Alliance were, without exception, of a pleasing nature, and all are united in pronouncing the Convention a grand success.

The first public debate of the session took place last night in Convocation Hall, Hon. G. W. Ross in the chair. The subject under discussion was the advisability of encouraging a military spirit in Canada.

Rev. W. H. Boyle, B.A., made his appearance in our midst the other day. He is settled in the flourishing town of Paris.

Rev. E. Freeman, B.A., is settled at Deer Park.

Word has been received from J. Elliott, third year University. He will not attend lectures this year. A heavy loss for the football team.

Rev. W. S. McTavish is studying at Union Seminary, New York.

The new class in theology bids fair to make a high mark in the annals of the College. One of the learned professors was recently constrained to turn the pages of Worcester by a mellifluous polysyllable from the lips of one of these ardent seekers after truth. One shudders to think of what he will be three years hence.

McMASTER HALL.

The Inter-Collegiate Missionary Alliance held its meeting on Saturday evening, in McMaster Hall. Five residence men were present.

Rev. Mr. Craig, Missionary to India, is in town, and addressed the regular Tuesday evening prayer-meeting in the College.

The Fyfe Missionary Society held its public meeting on Friday evening, when reports of their summer's work were read by its missionaries.

Owing to the kindness of the Professors' wives, the students of McMaster Hall were able to indulge in Thanksgiving festivities on Thursday. The faculty and their better halves honoured the occasion with their presence.

The foot-ball match with Knox College, which was to have been played on Tuesday, had to be postponed on account of the rain.

TRINITY MEDICAL SCHOOL.

The elections have come and gone, and we have for chairman of the annual dinner Mr. Dewar. We had an exciting contest, the voting being very close in every instance. There are, of course, some dissatisfied ones. This, however, is to be expected whenever there is any partyism shown. The committee will use every endeavour to make the dinner a great success, at least that is what they said in their speeches. There may not be the number of dress suits or the amount of style expected by some of a committee representing the school, but we must remember that the clothes do not make the man, and as we consider our school to be carried on irrespective of religious denomination, we must have it also irrespective of class.

The students of the Trinity and Toronto schools attended the funeral of the late Mrs. Fulton in a body. A floral pillow was presented by those of Trinity as a mark of esteem for the wife of their professor.

The present feeling between the ladies and gentlemen attending the clinical lectures at the Hospital is not all that could be desired. A few days ago a gentleman of Toronto School commenced a song, and the ladies—who appeared to be on the lookout for insults—left the room and laid a complaint before Dr. Barrett. Now this song at which they took offence, before even two lines had been sung, was one at which no one, not even the veriest prude, could do more than have a good laugh over, let alone take offence at. This had the effect first of our being treated to a long-winded dissertation from the *News*, and secondly of placing Dr. Barrett in the unpleasant position of making an apology for the rating he gave the students on account of the supposed insult to the ladies at a recent clinic before the students of both schools.

GENERAL COLLEGE NOTES.

Pie-making is one of the electives at Vassar.

Amherst is thinking of devoting itself entirely to classics.

350 colleges in the United States have no student publication of any kind.

The new gymnasium at Amherst cost \$88,000. Brown University is to have one to cost \$50,000.

There are 190 college papers in the United States, the oldest of which is the *Brunonian*, founded in 1829.

Editor's Table.

The *Academy* notices that Grau's collection of tales will be published under the title of *Strange Stories*.

We always thought *Acta Victoriana* was an advanced and progressive journal, but it has shown itself far ahead of other college papers. The first number this year comes dated "October, 1885"!

THE APPARENT ORBIT OF A SATELLITE OF A SUPERIOR PLANET ;
THE ORBIT OF THE GREAT COMET, 1882. By J. Morrison, M.
A., M.D., Ph. D.

We have much pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to two astronomical papers contributed to the Royal Astronomical Society by Dr. J. Morrison, who is now engaged on the American Ephemeris at the Naval Observatory, Washington. Dr. Morrison will not be unknown, by name at least, to the majority of our readers, as he was a well-known High School Master in this Province until assuming his present position.

The first of these papers, on the Orbit of the Great Comet of 1882, begins by drawing attention to the fact that though the planet's orbit should be capable of being very accurately determined, on account of the smallness of the planetary perturbations, yet the computed orbits range from a period of 3,115 days to one of 1,376 years. The great discrepancy evident in these results is attributed to the change in the form of the nucleus, which became elliptical in form with several bright points, causing considerable error in right ascension. Dr. Morrison gives between 703 and 793 years as the most probable period, the first of these being the period arrived at by himself, and the latter that computed by Mr. Frisby, whose name is not unknown in our halls.

Mr. Morrison gives in detail his calculations, based on three observations made after the perihelion passage of the comet, and after correcting for second differences arrives at the result above stated.

After discussing the transit over the sun's disk, the writer gives the following as some of the results arrived at:—

At the nearest approach to the sun the comet was distant 716,200 miles from that body, and was moving at a rate of 295.36 miles per second, while its greatest distance from the sun is 160 times the distance of the earth from the sun, and when at that distance it will be moving with a velocity of 75 feet per second.

This comet is considered to be identical with that of 370 B. C., and with the above period should have been last seen in the beginning of the twelfth century, and indeed mention is made in the Chinese records of a very conspicuous comet appearing in 1131 A. D.

Dr. Morrison's second paper is a very exhaustive one on the Apparent Orbit of a Satellite of a Superior Planet. In this the elements of the orbit being supposed known, it is shown how an ephemeris for the satellite may be computed. The writer deduces Bessel's formulæ; then shows how to correct the elements when the computed places do not agree with those obtained by observation, and finally gives rules for computing the times of greatest elongation.

These papers are well worth the perusal of the student of astronomy, as are others by the same writer which have been published previously.

The Editor acknowledges the receipt of a letter from "Health," containing a just complaint about the condition of the Literary Society's reading room. Our correspondent expresses himself vigorously on its insufficient accommodation, and lack of ventilation and heating.

THE GUARDIANS OF THE PEACE.

To the Editor of THE VARSITY:

The police force of Toronto is a peculiar institution, for whose existence there seems to be no longer any sufficient reason. When it was established the people of Toronto thought they were providing for a reasonable degree of protection to property and life. But they don't get it. Murder, robbery and kindred crimes are frequently occurring and in very many cases the perpetrators go undetected. There is a regular boom just now in Toronto in pocket-picking, and in the burglary business. Burglars explode safes with a report loud enough to wake up a whole ward, but not loud enough to waken up the police who slumber on their beats

in that district. Innumerable other burglaries have recently occurred, but as the persons engaged in the business neglected to notify the police department of their intentions there was no officer on hand to make the arrests, and now the whole force are employed sitting round waiting for the enterprising burglars to give themselves up. However, Toronto policemen have some special excellences. It is said that four of them, if they get a fair chance, can arrest a drunken loater—if only he be drunk enough. This is the only condition they ask. Moreover, if they lack in sensitiveness and acuteness in many directions they make up for it in another. The very sight of a student is said to affect some of their alleged minds so much that they go into spasms. It is certain that although a whole park of artillery be fired off under their very noses, they cannot find out for twenty-four hours (and then not until the *World* tells them) where the report came from; but let a student only whisper on the street the single word "cop" and twenty-five of them will gather in from all parts of the city, and if they are not molested they can arrest that young man, and if any other young fellow happens to be standing near they are sure to knock him down with clubs to sustain the majesty of the law and as a warning to burglars. These be valiant men, surely!

SIGMA.

Opinions Current and Otherwise.

The solid materialistic thinkers of to-day are decidedly less antagonistic to orthodox religious truth than they were a dozen years ago. This has come partly from a realization very generally felt among these men that there is a deeper story in nature and life than science can tell, and hence the need of a spiritual habit of mind, if not a supernatural revelation to such mind.—*Mobile Register*.

It is not because of his toils that I lament for the poor; we must all toil or steal (howsoever we name our stealing.) But what I do mourn over is that the lamp of his soul should go out; that no ray of heavenly or even of earthly knowledge should visit him. That there should one man die ignorant, who had capacity for knowledge, this I call a tragedy, were it to happen more than twenty times in the minute, as by some computations it does.—CARLYLE, (*Sartor Resartus*).

A comparison of the relative cost of education in the two countries, shows us that in England our higher education is lifted out of the reach of the people, because it is supplied at double what might be cost price, whereas in Germany it is brought down to them because it is offered to them at less than half price. In Germany, where there are very few educational endowments, the educational system is perfect and the fees low, while in England where enormous endowments exist, the education is inefficient and dear.—Charles Bird, F.G.S., in *Higher Education in Germany and England*.

It has often been said that as science advances poetry will decline. This view is boldly combated by Mr. William Ackroyd, in *The Science Monthly*. The writer takes for his theme, "Tennyson's Science." He examines the Laureate's poetry critically "to see whether his science impoverishes his descriptive passages or makes any natural fact appear less beautiful than it might be made to appear." The first quotation is Tennyson's description of empty space in *Lucretius*—

The gods who haunt
The lucid interspace of world and world,
Where never creeps a cloud, or moves a wind,
Nor ever falls the least white star of snow,
Nor ever lowest roll of thunder moans,
Nor sound of human sorrow mounts to mar
Their sacred everlasting calm.

"The very expression, 'white star of snow,' is an epitome of Glaisher's observations. If you ever saw a snow crystal exquisitely shaped, and of definite geometric form—each ray of the crystal making an angle of 60° with its neighbouring ice-ray—then you will perceive the scientific accuracy of the expression. Substitute the word 'flake' for 'star' and you are certainly taking away enchantment's veil from creation's face; but with the phrase 'white star' a picture is conjured up in the educated mind, such a picture as was never seen in childhood's dreams of snowflakes."

The trouble is, my friend went to the Germans for imagina-

tive literature, and now he finds their literature essentially un-poetic. Their fiction, he says, is diffuse and tedious. In his worst moments he insists that their poetry is dull. At first attractive, the monotonous canter or jog-trot of its metres becomes wearisome with the noisy click and clank of their consonant, encumbered rhymes. Moreover it is always *Blumen* and *Blumen* and never any particular species of flower; always *Duft* and *Luft*, *Klagen* and *Schlagen*, *Herz* and *Schmerz*, and never any specific variety of sound, or color, or feeling.—*The Atlantic*.

Our Wallet.

This is the way Robert J. Burdette *slightly* mixes the metaphors in supposed imitation of the gushing Vassar graduate: "Life is an ocean! Let us, then, cleanse its Augean stables of this blighting leprosy, and beard the lion in his den, and, in the gathering gloom which marks the footprints of decay, throttle it in its cradle, ere yet its black wings shall strike its fangs deep into the soil of American freedom and with a Judas kiss betray our fondest hopes and brightest dreams into the sand-swept waste of this sirocco-stricken maelstrom that yawns at our feet, waiting for some self-sacrificing Curtius to lay the axe at the root of this deadly Upas tree that shadows all the land with the lurid of its basilisk eye, which, siren like, charms with its delusive song, only to chill into pulseless stone with the Gorgon horror of its icy blast."

* *

To "University" the poet sought
A rhyme, for in resounding verse it he
Would sing. Then slowly grew he sore distraught.
His wits were crazed. The great diversity
Of all his sought-out rhymes but to him brought
A melancholy. To immerse it he
Drank deeply of the flowing bowl, and thought
"Toronto (hic) was none the worse city,
Because of the (hic) University."
Alas! that pleasures are with sorrow fraught!
For, owing to the cop's perversity,
And club, and language neat and terse, (it he
Did handle featly), the poor poet, taught
How grievously,—but further than we ought
We will not speak of the misfortunes, wrought
Upon the ill-starred poet who had sought
For words to rhyme with "University."

* *

A western paper says, rather ambiguously, that the Cornell Freshmen this year will embrace twenty young ladies.—*Tech.*

* *

The new elevator recently put in at Vassar College is not much used, as the girls prefer to slide down the banisters.—*Ex.*

* *

There is a metre prosaic, dactylic,
There is a metre for laugh and for moan,
But the metre which is never prosaic,
Is the "Meet her by moonlight, alone."—*Ex.*

* *

The New Haven *Register* says: "Two car-loads of cigarettes and a bundle of text books were switched off on a side track at the depot yesterday; college begins to-day."

* *

AT YALE.

"Where, O where is my boy to-night?"
Whispers a mother dear.
"He's parading, ma'am, with a big torch-light,
And now and then takes a beer."—*Yale Record*.

AT TORONTO.

"Where, O where is my boy to-night?"
Whispers a mother dear.
"He's been 'run in' for sassing the 'cops,'
And trying to raise a cheer."—*ERIC*.

"Well, well," said old Mrs. Gumbo as she laid down the morning paper, "So they've rescued poor old Greeley alive. I do hope that Horace'll take hold of the *Tribune* and edit it sensibly, as he used ter."—*Railroad Advertiser*.

Poet's Corner.

THE SONG AT EVENING BY THE STREAM.

(Reprinted by request from the 'Varsity of 1880.)

That sweet country girl we met,
As we crossed the rippling stream
At the spray-wet stepping-stones,
Singing in those tender tones
Filled my soul, friend, with a dream
Whose delight doth linger yet.
For her voice so sweet and low
Seemed an echo, as I heard,
And a music disinterred—
Seemed a voice from long ago.
And my heart again was young
In the hot cornfield of yore
Where the reapers blithely sung
While they cut the golden grain,
And the work went swiftly on
Till the summer day was o'er
And we took the shady lane
Homeward at the set of sun.

* * * * *

Often then throughout the day
Would the farmer's daughter bring
Water for the thirsty men;
She was in her joyous spring,
April melting into May.
O, that she were yet as then!

* * * * *

Ah, I think I see her now,
With a smiling face and brow,
Coming through the fragrant lane
Underneath the swaying trees
(She will never come again!)
In the cool white summer dress
Ruffled by the summer breeze,
In her maiden loveliness,—
Blushing deeply as she drew
Near the admiring harvest-crew
Hotly toiling in the grain,
Carolling the long day through—
Reapers who were mirthful then.

* * * * *

How this gloaming doth restore
Her sweet face, the years of yore!

* * * * *

In youth's bloom I see her go
Glimmering past the stocked-up sheaves,
While the stars begin to shine,
Coming from the clover-meadow,
From the milking of the kine,
As of old on summer eves
When the fields were steeped in shadow
And the grass was wet with dew.
Then she sang the tenderest lays,
And her voice was soft and low
Like the voice beside the stream
Which recalled those happy days—
And a moment I was borne
To the faces loved at morn,
To my world of years ago,
And to her, my youthful dream.

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"YOUNG MEN."

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