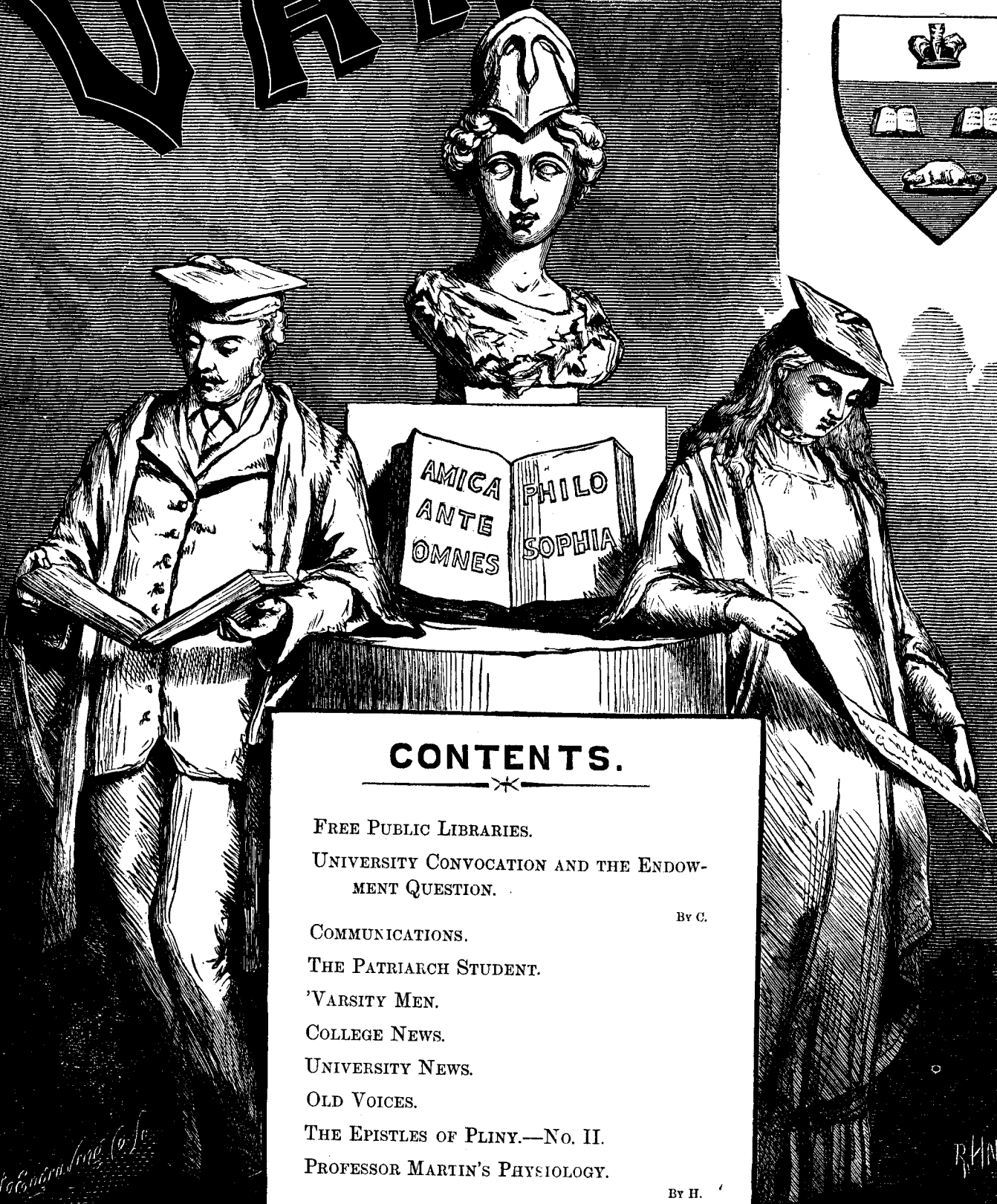


THE VARSITY



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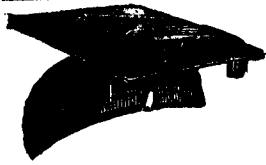
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Toronto, - - November 4, 1881.



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THE ' VARSITY:

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF

EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY POLITICS AND EVENTS.

Vol. 2. No. 4.

November 4, 1881.

Price 5 cts.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

MR. HALLAM, a Toronto alderman, after making inquiries in England about the working of the Free Libraries Act, has come to the conclusion that we, in Ontario, ought to copy this piece of English legislation. Free Libraries in England are established on the strength of a special municipal rate. MR. HALLAM, whatever may come of his proposal, deserves the thanks of the community for what he has done. The free libraries of England, as the municipal libraries are called, are divided into two sections—lending and reference. In the number of volumes, the lending section outdoes the other. As a reference library, to be complete, should embrace nearly the whole range of literature, not wholly excepting current publications, the number of volumes in it should far exceed those in the lending section. But what is desirable to be done is not always identical with what it is possible to do; and if either section of a municipal library is to fall behind the other, the reference section is sure to be the sufferer. This has happened in England, and it would be much more certain to happen here.

Canada is deplorably behind the rest of the world in public libraries; and municipal aid, if it be forthcoming, should not be rejected. But we must not expect too much of municipal effort. Aldermen would have to take what they believed to be the popular view, and square their action with it. In favor of purchasing such books as are in immediate demand, they would be obliged to exert their influence. For the heavy tomes of a reference library, they would have no wish. The farther back they went, and the more difficult the books to procure, the less would they be desirous of obtaining them. Current literature would get an undue preference. The stream would run in the right direction, but it would be too violent. Current literature, which chiefly meets the demand for popular reading, has become, in various forms, so cheap that few are so poor as not to be able to purchase a fair supply of it; but of reference books the contrary is true; instead of getting cheaper, increasing years find them scarcer and add to their market value.

But let us not discourage municipal effort in establishing public libraries, one-sided though it would inevitably prove; for anything that will tend to remove the scandal of the paucity of public libraries in the Province ought to be welcomed. Only let us not deceive ourselves: municipal effort will never produce a great public library. Beside the free library, there will always be room for a foundation on which to build, by individual sacrifice, a really great public library. A great public library is the growth of time, of years, generally of centuries, and the longer the commencement is deferred, the more difficult is the task.

GIBSON once remarked that sculpture was impossible out of Rome, where, Englishman as he was, he had resided thirty years. Any branch of literature requiring extended research may, in the same way, be said to be impossible in Ontario. We do not overlook the Parliamentary Library at Ottawa

but that, though the best we have got, besides being very imperfect, is situated in a small city where political strife is too loud for profitable meditation and impartial reasoning. To Ottawa an Ontario literary man must, as things go, take his longings, and when he gets there, there is no certainty that his longings will be appeased. Great cities have a need of great public libraries; but it would be a revelation to us to find that the aldermanic rulers therein would have any ambition to meet the intellectual want. Free municipal libraries may have their place, but we do not expect the waters of intellectual intelligence in our municipal councils to rise higher than their source. Let the municipal councils of cities do their best in this direction; there will remain a much more important work for individual effort to accomplish.

UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION AND THE ENDOWMENT QUESTION.

It would be hard to imagine a more complete fiasco than the meeting of Convocation held, or rather, attempted to be held, last June. That but three or four of our graduates should put in an appearance well deserved the thinly-veiled rebuke administered by CHANCELLOR BOYD, as Chairman of Convocation at the University dinner, and this disheartening event will, in all probability, be repeated unless some attempt is made to galvanize into life that somewhat lifeless body. The scanty attendance at the last meeting may be partially accounted for on the ground that, though there were some questions of a special, there were none of great or general interest up, for discussion. Only a persistent agitation of such questions as are of vital interest can make Convocation the progressive and influential body it ought to be; as its functions are wholly or almost wholly recommendatory, it is hopeless to expect any vitality to be exhibited in the discussion of minor measures. On the other hand, we cannot expect the Senate or the local Government gratuitously to come forward to carry out any apparently unsupported schemes. To any demands for action coming merely from individual members of the University, or from other independent sources, they naturally reply that Convocation was created for the express purpose of authoritatively presenting such demands, and refuse to recognize those coming from any other source as imperative.

No matter what new schemes are proposed or reforms advocated in matters concerning the University of Toronto or University College, they invariably, in the final analysis, hinge upon the vexed question of a further endowment. At present the expenditure of the institution trenches closely on its income; any unforeseen demand on the exchequer may bring about a very awkward state of affairs. An increase in the number of professorships is simply a necessity; the proposals to found fellowships and enlarge the building accommodation have virtually fallen through; in fact, it is evident that a suitable legislative grant could be applied never more profitably and effectively than now. To reconcile the strong general feeling on this subject with the apathy of Convocation, would be a difficult task; it is not by any means too late, however, to remedy the results of past inactivity.

Our Provincial University is essentially a State institution, and as the Province is its founder and sole benefactor, the Legislature ought not to leave it in a half-finished condition, incapable of further develop-

The Government undoubtedly is, as it ought to be, anxious, in interests of higher education, to grant all possible assistance; its duty to act decisively in this particular obviously arises from the inherent in our system of government by party. It is supposed that further grants to the State institution would arouse a storm of opposition in the denominational colleges, but it may be fairly questioned whether this difficulty is not largely illusory. In this Province, as in the other, the denominational institutions are reaping the benefits of voluntary contributions, an avenue to wealth that is practically closed (except in rare instances) to any State institution. From this point of view it would be unfair on their part if they sought to debar us from applying to the Legislature, a source proper to us, and to which we are confined, but to which, under our system of government, they have no right. From these and other considerations, it seems very probable that a bold step on the part of the Government in appropriating a portion of the surplus would not call forth any violent expressions of disapprobation. The grant might take a less invidious shape if some of the waste lands of the Province were appropriated. But these, however, are matters of detail; the great question is to prevail on the Legislature to decide in favor of the general scheme.

We would therefore venture to recommend to the members of Convocation that they would now effect some informal organization with a view to definitive action next June. A strong expression of opinion, properly followed up, would at once bring to bear on the Legislature the powerful influence of our graduates, who do not seem to know their own strength. A necessary step would be to interest the members of Convocation outside of Toronto in its proceedings; this has already been done with marked success, and could be done again. The important task of settling some definite scheme will probably fall into the hands of Toronto graduates, and could be decided in one or two informal meetings. No more favorable opportunity than the present could well be imagined, and if a bold and decisive step is ever to be taken, it should be taken now.

C.

Undergraduate thinks that the seizure of books by the Custom House censor is an incident in which the readers of the 'Varsity have no interest. These students, actually or presumably, spend much of their time in the study of books; and if unlimited license be given to the literary censor enthroned in the Custom House, their studies would be in danger of being interrupted by a seizure of text books; for it is quite impossible to say what a Custom House censor, restricted by no list of prohibited books, and at liberty to exercise an arbitrary discretion, might not take upon himself to do. We certainly did not intend to say anything against the Roman Catholic Church as such; and we do not think that the occurrence of the words "Ultramontane party" and "Protestantism," in the paragraph in question, is a capital crime. In the Province of Quebec, that party has just received a rap over the knuckles from Rome for its attack on the University at Laval. When dogmatic intolerance is translated into civil intolerance, exercised through the Custom House, the 'Varsity will not consent to remain silent. If the intolerance had not got beyond the dogmatic stage, no reference would have been made to it in these columns. Dogmatic intolerance, the Abbé Pâquet tells the students of Laval, is the sheet anchor of the Church of Rome—a reliance which she can never consent to relinquish. His lectures containing this declaration are reprinted at the press of the Propaganda, at Rome, with the approval of high authorities in the church. "Undergraduate" makes a statement which seems to conflict with this fact. Intolerance was the inheritance of Protestantism, but as Protestantism developed, it cast away the legacy. The first Protestants were intolerant—tolerance developed later. Are we to fall back under the yoke of civil intolerance? The *Mail* has apparently no objection; "Undergraduate" none. We have; that is the difference between us.

The objection made by M. A. in a letter in this issue to the want of discrimination by a writer in last week's 'Varsity, between the functions of the University of Toronto and of University College, is, strictly speaking, correct. The writer, however, allowably we think, made use of the word University in the general sense in which it is used the world over. It is only at the Universities of Toronto and London that the distinction so pronouncedly exists.

McMASTER HALL is at once an evidence of modern liberality and of modern intelligence in design and equipment. The students' quarters there form a striking contrast to the Residence of University College, which was built at a time when ventilation was an infant science, and sunlight, for unknown reasons, was looked at with suspicion. McMaster Hall is a place designed for living as well as for learning. The studying and sleeping rooms are heated and ventilated according to the most approved plans; they are full of sunlight, and are airy and cheerful, having nothing of the dingy, damp and dismal appearance of a certain other abode. Had the money expended on the University buildings been directed towards the erection of a college where style and outward appearance were made secondary considerations to economy and usefulness, how much more would the student community have been benefited in the past, and in time to come? The same amount of money otherwise expended would have procured all that University College now possesses, together with at least thrice the present number of apartments, and these of convenient size and properly equipped.

THE removal of the Literary Society from the University Building to Moss Hall (as it is now called) has not in its results fulfilled expectation. The attendance seems to have diminished, and it is asserted that there is an absence of the vigor that formerly marked the proceedings. Resident students particularly seem to have ceased taking part in the exercises. To bring the Society back once more into closer connection with the University might do something towards renewing its former vitality. Accordingly a proposal is on foot to sell or lease (if possible) Moss Hall, and with the proceeds to erect a new building more adapted to the needs of a debating society, and adjoining the University building. The proposition ought to have the best consideration of the members and General Committee of the Society, as the successful carrying out of such a scheme would wholly depend on them. Would it not be a good idea to strike a special committee to report on the subject?

NOTHING is more likely to acquire for University College the good wishes of the community at large than the proposition of the professors to deliver a series of popular lectures on scientific subjects. The lectures are designed specially for skilled mechanics and artisans, and if they are attended as largely as they should be, the result cannot but be satisfactory. Those who are likely to take advantage of these lectures are such as will do so with the expectation of acquiring knowledge which they can employ in their daily work, and by means of which they may be able to invent useful machines, make better bread, improve stoves, perfect ventilating appliances, and do a hundred other such things. Such lectures as these, delivered to practical men, will probably be productive of greater benefits to the country than are the more theoretical lectures given to regular college students. We hope the efforts of President Wilson and his colleagues will receive the attention they merit.

COMMUNICATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE 'Varsity.

SIR,—Can you explain how it comes to be so difficult for even University men to distinguish between these two institutions? Your contributor "C.," in his otherwise well-written article on the Western University, says:

"It has been well pointed out that a university ought to subserve two ends—the education of its undergraduates and the encouragement of original research. The former function alone is performed (and inadequately at that) by our Provincial University; the latter is not even attempted. An insufficient endowment prevents substantial progress, and how can we expect an increase of funds if public liberality is to be distracted and weakened by a multiplication of objects?"

Allow me to offset this quotation with two from the Revised Statutes of Ontario. The first is section 4 of Chap. 210:

"There shall be no professorship or other teachership in the said University of Toronto, but its functions shall be limited to the examining of candidates for degrees in the several faculties, or for scholarships, prizes, or certificates of honor in different branches of knowledge, and to the granting of such degrees, scholarships, prizes, and certificates, after examination, in the manner hereinafter mentioned."

The next quotation is part of section 9, Chap. 209, which deals with the constitution and functions of University College:

"There shall be in the said college such professors, lecturers, and teachers, and there shall be taught in the said college such sciences,

arts, and branches of knowledge as the Council, by statutes in that behalf, from time to time determines, such statutes being consistent with the statutes of the University of Toronto as regards the prescribed subjects of examination."

Now, it is using the term "education" in a peculiar sense to say that our University has to do with the education of its undergraduates. It has, of course, to do with their education indirectly when it prescribes a certain curriculum; but the tenor of "C.'s" remarks shows that he includes the teaching function of University College under the term "university." If I am mistaken, then the correction may stand as it is, for the benefit of those who are in the habit of speaking about Toronto University and University College as if they were one and the same institution. If men who are really aware of the distinction do not observe it in their writing and speaking, how is the present miscellaneous confusion of ideas ever to be brought to an end?

M. A.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE 'Varsity.

SIR,—I consider that the editorial note in the last issue about Mr. Patton's seizure of books was altogether out of place. Apart from the objection that applies to everything that has been said in the 'Varsity on the question, viz., that it has nothing to do with the University, you have inserted a paragraph of a decidedly-religious (or anti-religious) spirit. There is a reference to the "Ultramontane party," and the term "Protestantism" is introduced in a way that carries a hit at Roman Catholicism. Together with the men who reside at one of the affiliated colleges, I have the honor to be an adherent of the latter creed, and as such I yield to no one in the profession of liberal principles. I do not, however, wish to prove that there is no necessary connection between intolerance and Roman Catholicism—a proof which an ordinary acquaintance with history could command—but to draw your attention to the opening article of the first issue of last year's 'Varsity. In that article, in spite of its tangled verbiage, there is an unequivocal statement to the effect that the University organ is not to serve as an outlet for opinions on religious and political topics. I assert most confidently that the above-mentioned editorial note is a direct contravention of that statement.

UNDERGRADUATE.

OBSERVATIONS BY THE PATRIARCH STUDENT.

At Harrow the power of fagging belongs to both divisions of the Sixth Form—that is, to about the first eighty boys in the school. Fagging is chiefly confined to the large boarding houses, though cricket-fagging, which means long-stopping for the Sixth Form, affects equally boarders and home boarders. In large boarding houses, fagging consists of carrying up breakfast and tea, filling foot-baths, bringing provisions from shops, and running miscellaneous errands.

**

SPOT once edited a college paper, and a rare old editor he must have been. A tailor sent him in his bill; it was returned, with a notice that "the manuscript was respectfully declined."

**

TOWARDS the end of last year the *Queen's College Journal* got the straight tip about us: the 'Varsity was to be *non est* in a short time, and this was very generously given away in three or four numbers of the former paper. But to the unbounded indignation of the Firm, instead of taking the usual course of making up the bets on our future extinction, the *Journal* began moralizing about it. I'm not surprised the Chief has decided that no more straight tips shall go forth from this office for the Kingstonians. By the way, *their* paper has been *non est* so far this term, and our eyes will get sore in looking out for the star of university journalism if a copy does not appear soon. The odds are at present 15 to 1 in favor of its coming out before Xmas.

**

I AM informed by Miss Dimpsey that the first hat of a new fashion for ladies is not the result of any particular design. One is finished plain, and then sat down upon by the head milliner. Whatever shape it may take under pressure is adopted as the latest style, and becomes the pattern for others.

THE diet allowed by a Harrow house master to his h-nerative boarders is abominably bad. For tea and breakfast bread and butter; for dinner, roast and boiled meat, a plain and one glass of the very mildest specimen of 'small-beer'; for cold meat, bread and cheese, and another glass of beer. (Public Schools Commissioners, in 1862, apparently surprised a large quarterly charge for a Harrow boy's board should not be to a more liberal diet, threw out a suggestion to Dr. Butler that eggs might be provided by the master for the boys' With touching simplicity the head master replied, that eggs, if not provided, but that 'a large machine for boiling eggs is bought every day; so that if the boys bring their eggs, they are boiled for them.' Truly the author of this notable expedient for satisfying the craving appetite of a hungry boy, displayed a fertility of economical device which was akin to genius. If his name were known, there would be no difficulty in having his departed spirit revered as the patron saint of the kitchen department in the University College Residence. His inventiveness would have warm admirers in a region, the inhabitants of which are regaled by cheap meat, badly cooked food, and repulsive table appurtenances. In these respects the gentlemen at Residence are worse off than the boys at Harrow.

**

DR. SAMUEL SMILES, in his book "Duty," says, "Everyone knows the story of the faithful dog, Bobby," and goes on to detail how the dog lay for four years on its master's grave. Now, if Mr. Smiles does not know, he ought to be informed, that the story of the dog, "Grey friars Bobby," is a hoax that was perpetrated by an Edinburgh press man.

**

A SMITH'S COLLEGE girl went out fishing, caught five freckles, and has remained in her room ever since. A Wesleyan College girl would have taken a piece of the *Portfolio* and sand-papered them off, and gone out again next day. And a Vassar girl would have welcomed them as old friends whom neither dim religious light, nor cosmetics, nor sand-paper could drive away.

**

WHEN you have finished eating it is the correct thing to leave the table. Some people leave nothing else. (*Wise Sayings of the Residence Steward.*)

**

THE *Parisian* is undoubtedly the champion ocean steamer, and the Cunard people are mad as hatters about it. One gentleman, who has made frequent passages to England, goes now when he can select the *Parisian*. On the last occasion, just before leaving Liverpool, he telegraphed to his wife, in Toronto, to have dinner ready at a certain hour, eight days and a half from the time, and he would be there. Within two hours of the time named he arrived. And where do you think he lost the two hours? On a dirty bit of twenty miles on the Grand Trunk Railway between Scarborough and this town.

**

THE manner in which Mozart obtained a copy of the *Miserere* is highly characteristic and interesting. When in his fourteenth year, Mozart travelled with his father to Rome, and was invited by the Pope to Quirinal Palace. While in conversation with His Holiness, he solicited a copy of the *Miserere*, but was refused, in consequence of a prohibition that had been issued. He then asked permission to attend the only rehearsal, to which he listened with the utmost attention. On quitting the chapel, Mozart spoke not a word, but hastened home and wrote down the notes. At the public performance he brought his manuscript carefully concealed in his hat, and having filled in some omissions and corrected some errors, he had the satisfaction of knowing that he possessed a complete copy of the treasure thus jealously guarded.

**

MY sporting note book has mysteriously disappeared, and I venture to say to the individual who feeds the column "Varsity Sport" that thereby hangs a tale. Thus I am reduced to making a general remark or two. For instance, I consider that the practice of athletic and gymnastic exercises is being encouraged to an alarming extent at our educational establishments (I believe that's the correct term) for young ladies. This summer two of Miss Dimpsey's cousins came home for their holidays from Whitby College, and the first day after their return from school their governor found them fencing with broomsticks in the back garden. True to the paternal instinct, he reminded the girls that such an accomplishment would not aid them in procuring husbands. "It will help us to keep them in order," replied Atalanta, a muscular young Christian, who is nothing if not practical.

asked robbers stopped an honest editor one night, and
 olvers at his head, demanded his money. "I have no
 said, "but I will give you a puff in the *Yale Courant*."
 The masked robbers smote him thrice with a big stick and
 Hæc fabula docets that there is such a thing as having too

ere!
 * * *
 urther were discussing relative ages in one of the Residence
 in other night:
 "How many years would you give me," said an elderly
 of scholarly appearance to the host of the evening.
 denone at all, sir. The pair you've already got are enough to suffice
 orasonable man."

Once on a time, within living memory, a very zealous and well
 intentioned man had spiritual charge of an obscure village in a remote
 part of Scotland, where Gaelic only was spoken. To this place came at
 intervals a few tourists, who, apparently wandering about without any
 clearly defined plan, by chance fell upon this out-of-the-way place.
 Now, the heart of this good man was sad when he saw these visitors
 sitting with his flock unable to enjoy with them his bursts of elo-
 quence, because they knew not the tongue in which he spake. There-
 fore he resolved to study the English language in the hope of benefiting
 some of his stray hearers. The winter passed, and the pastor passed it
 in hard work with English dictionary and grammar, till, when the sum-
 mer again come round, he, though unable to deliver himself entirely in
 English, could at all events turn his text and a few short sentences into
 "that other" tongue, and having composed a most effective discourse,
 the wished-for opportunity came. Ascending his pulpit, he noticed two
 strangers, and having given out his text in Gaelic, said, "I will, for the
 good of our visitors, give my text and heads of my sermon in their own
 language," proceeding thus: "The Devil goeth about as a roaring lion."
 "That," said he, "is my text, and I shall divide my sermon into three
 heads—First, who the Devil he was; second, where the Devil he was
 going; third, what the Devil he was roaring at." The tourists were
 amazed, and indeed shocked, but one of them fortunately knew suf-
 ficient of Gaelic to gather that the preacher was not an impious joker,
 and being much impressed with his real eloquence, he sought an inter-
 view with the minister, when the mystery was solved. The Scotch par-
 son had translated the words, but was not aware of the difference in
 idiomatic construction.

VARSITY MEN. Mr. L. J. Clarke, coming from his bath, let fall
 upon the stone flags of the Residence corridor his crockery soap dish,
 and, stepping on the broken pieces, cut his left foot very badly. By
 care it is thought that he will be able to be about by the end of the
 week.

Mr. A. D. Ponton, of the Third Year, has been appointed Inspec-
 tor of the Trust and Loan Company of Canada.

Mr. W. D. McKenzie is at Centreville, Prince Edward's Island.

Mr. W. N. Ponton, B.A., '79, has hung out his legal shingle in
 Belleville.

Mr. S. E. Robertson has gone into banking at Mount Forest.

Mr. W. G. Hanna, B.A., '81, is still at University College attend-
 ing lectures in several courses in the upper years.

Mr. W. O. Galloway, having recovered from a severe illness of
 several weeks, is again attending lectures.

COLLEGE NEWS. THE students of McMaster Hall have already
 formed a society called the McMaster Hall Literary Society. The meet-
 ings are fortnightly, and are open to the public. "Resolved, that the
 seizure of Paine's 'Age of Reason,' and of Voltaire's 'Pocket Theology' is
 justifiable," is the subject of the next debate. Messrs. Sale and
 McKeown will argue the affirmative, and Messrs. St. Dalmas and
 McGillivray the negative.

The gymnasium at McMaster Hall is now being finished. It
 occupies two rooms in the east end of the basement. The equipment
 will be very satisfactory.

PROFESSOR McVICAR will arrive at the end of this week. He is
 the only member of the faculty who will reside in the Hall. A fine suite
 of apartments has been set aside for his private use.

THE library at McMaster Hall is being rapidly supplied with books.
 Two cases arrived on Monday last. The reading-room, adjoining the
 library on the first floor, will have a goodly supply of papers.

THERE are eighteen students of theology, of whom six are non-
 residents. Besides these eighteen there are fifteen matriculated students
 of University College who live at the Hall, a good many of them having
 the theological course in view.

THE Debating Society held an ordinary meeting on Friday, Octo-
 ber 28th, the President, Mr. Kingsford, in the chair. On division of
 the Society, the President took the chair in the 3rd and 1st Years
 department, and the 1st Vice-President, Mr. Creelman, in the 4th and
 2nd Years department. The subject of debate in both rooms was,
 "Resolved, That text-books should be abolished from the honor
 courses in Toronto University." We have been unable to obtain a
 report of the proceedings in the 3rd and 1st Years room. In the 4th and
 2nd Years room, readings were given by Messrs. Levesconte and O'Mara.
 Messrs. Jaffray, Simpson, and Young argued the affirmative, and
 Messrs. Wishart, Wiltsie, and Wigle the negative of the debate; and
 the chairman, summing up, gave his decision in favor of the negative.
 On the Society coming together, Prof. Loudon's offer of the loan to the
 Society of a monthly scientific magazine, *Nature*, was accepted, and the
 election for the office of Curator was proceeded with, Mr. Wade being
 elected. Mr. A. F. Lobb was chosen Reader, and Messrs. J. D.
 Cameron, B.A., W. G. Hanna, B.A., E. P. Davis, and J. Mackay,
 Speakers, for the public meeting to be held on Friday, Nov. 11th. The
 meeting then adjourned.

[Hereafter, in our report of the proceedings of this Society, we will
 refer to that part of the Society composed of the 4th and 2nd Years, as
 the "Senior" division, and that part composed of the 3rd and 1st Years,
 as the "Junior" division.]

A PUBLIC meeting of the Knox College Literary Society will be
 held in the Knox College Convocation Hall, on Friday evening,
 November 11th.

THE Glee Club held its first practice on Thursday, Oct. 27th. This
 is only the second year of the Club's existence; and the fact that forty-
 one active members were present at its first meeting augurs well for its
 success. There are seventy-two names on the roll, and the leader, Mr.
 Torrington, hopes to have the number soon increased to one hundred.

THE House Committee of the Literary Society are considering plans
 for enlarging and elaborately fitting up the General Committee Room.

THE University College Natural Science Association held its
 second meeting for this term on Wednesday evening, in the School of
 Practical Science, the President, Dr. Ellis, occupying the chair. Several
 new members were elected, and the Association now proceeded to
 choose gentlemen to represent the 3rd and 4th Years on the General
 Committee. Mr. Mustard was unanimously elected a representative of
 the 4th Year; and, as the result of a ballot, Mr. D. O. Cameron was
 appointed to fill the same office for the 3rd Year. It having been sug-
 gested that, as so few gentlemen were present—several being members
 of the University Company Q. O. R., and accordingly absent at the
 usual weekly drill—it would be advisable to postpone the President's
 Inaugural Address until the succeeding meeting; and the majority
 of those present being of that opinion, the meeting adjourned.

The President of the Debating Society entertained the members
 of the General Committee at his house yesterday evening.

THE undergraduates of the Fourth Year spent last Saturday even-
 ing at the residence of the President of the College.

LAST Friday being St. Simon and St. Jude's day, the students of
 Trinity College held their annual dinner.

THE stench arising from the Taddle is very pronounced. The
 prevalence of so much fever in the city is surely a good reason for the
 prompt abatement of this long-standing nuisance.

A SERIES of lectures, prepared chiefly for the benefit of skilled
 mechanics and artisans, will be delivered every Monday and Thursday
 during a part of the winter at the School of Practical Science. The
 professors of University College have undertaken to deliver these lec-
 tures, which are divided into seven courses, viz., Organic Chemistry,
 Applied Mechanics, Ethnology, Natural History, Light or Sound,
 Geology, and the Objects of Chemistry as a Science. The charge is
 merely nominal, being four dollars for all courses, or one dollar for a
 single course. Prof. Wilson opens the series on Monday evening, the
 14th, when he will deliver a lecture entitled, "On the Practical Uses of
 Science in Daily Life." This lecture is free.

UNIVERSITY NEWS. THE scepticism of students is said, by a writer
 in the *Kansas Review*, to be the offspring of Seclusion. He urges as an
 antidote to Unbelief the encouragement of societies and social clubs in
 the institutions, and the development in every way of social intercourse
 among students themselves and with the outside world.

THE Schiller prize is one that is offered in Germany for the best new
 drama in the language of that country. A commission of prominent
 literary men, that assembled in Berlin for the consideration of productions
 competing for the prize, has decided that none is good enough this year
 to deserve it.

VICTORIA University, of Manchester, England, has decided to grant academical degrees without demanding a knowledge of Latin and Greek.

THE presence of the women students at the University of California has, the *San Francisco Bulletin* says, contributed to establish a wholesome standard of conduct on the part of the young men. These young women have been among the cleverest students of the institution. They have carried off a large proportion of the prizes and honors, and they are working with great zeal.

At Yale the Faculty protect Freshmen from subscription lists until after November 1st. By that time the excessive "gullibleness" is supposed to have worn off.

It is expected that Mr. Edward A. Freeman's historical lectures at Cornell will draw large audiences, and a plan is proposed of issuing tickets to admit a limited number of the outside public. The students of course are to be allowed the best seats.

A NEW department is to be established at Cornell University—one of History, Political Science, and General Jurisprudence. It is to be a full undergraduate course, pursuing literary and scientific studies for general culture, but especially to give training to young men who intend to take up the law or follow journalism.

THERE are 156 college papers published in the United States. Twenty-six States and two Territories are represented.

It is said that there is a movement afoot among the Germans in the United States for the erection of a native university on the model of that in Berlin. Milwaukee is mentioned as the proposed seat of such university.

THE Oxford cap is now worn at Princeton, Williams, Amherst, Trinity, University of the City of New York, and Brown University.

THERE are many American boys in the preparatory schools of Germany, and in the universities and higher schools there were 130 American students last year. While foreign training is of benefit to young men whose characters are in a measure formed, and whose plans are definite, it is questionable whether the ideas, the discipline, and the sentiment of German preparatory schools are good for impressional youngsters whose future lives are to be spent in a republic.—*New York Tribune*.

OLD VOICES.

The past never comes back ; what we fancy are but the ideal ghosts of things that were.—PROF. YOUNG.

I stand on the confines of the past to-night—

The world that is gone before ;
And in the dim flicker of the parlor light
Old shadows steal before my sight
From its strange and misty shore.

And bygone murmurs are in my ears,
And sweet lips touch my cheeks ;
And old, old tunes, that no one hears,
That steal to me from the sad old years,
And sweet words that no one speaks.

But only the rhythm of an old-time tune,
That steals down the halls of time ;
And comes so soft, like the far-off rune
Of a stream that sleeps through the afternoon,
Or a distant evening chime.

And in the silence that intervenes,
Sad voices whisper low :
Come back once more to the loved old scenes—
To the dim old region of boyhood's dreams—
The sweet world you used to know.

And, loved old shadows, I fain would go,
For hot fires sear my breast ;
The wild, fierce passions of human woe,
And sad, sad longings ye may not know,
That make me wish for rest.

But through all the seethe and mad'ning roar,
Stern voices call to me :
"Vague dreamer, seek the past no more,
For a nobler region lies before—
Life's grand reality."

THE EPISTLES OF PLINY—II.

The perusal of history often brings to our mind the reflection as in days gone by the men of the past made by their own account, so the men of to-day are engraving on the scroll their account by which they will be judged. Hour by hour grows ; the sun reaches the meridian ; the shadows lengthen ; falls ; another day has gone ; another niche in the gallery of victories is filled. Whatever has happened during those hours become the property of the whole human race. A kingdom may be fallen ; a great man died ; a continent discovered ; a crime may have been committed ; a blunder made ; an empire lost ; the fate of millions changed. What is done cannot be undone : the decree of Fate has been accomplished ; and in due course another day shines forth, to blossom, bear fruit for good or evil, then die and pass away.

"To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow,
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day,
To the last syllable of recorded time."

How should this reflection influence our lives. What necessity there is that our public men, of all others, should be subject to such a restraint. They should be trained ; well read ; filled with the feeling of responsibility to the future ; careful of their reputations ; willing to suffer all rather than lose their self-respect, or the respect of those who will come after them. How constantly should they remember that the place in history which they might wish to occupy will not be given them for temporary prominence gained by successful trickery, but that a calm, cold critical investigation will be made after they themselves have passed away, which will try by the test of truth and honor all their actions. How petty then will appear the subterfuges ; the broken promises ; the sacrifices of principle ; the corruption ; the want of personal honor ; the mean revenge ; which, alas ! have been witnessed in our time and country. History will deal with all these things, and some future Hallam, weighing with cold impartiality the good and bad which men have done, will say of this one : "He was a patriot and a statesman ! he is worthy of honor !" And of that : "He was a trickster ; a breaker of faith ; he sacrificed his principles for place ; he pandered to the ignorance of the mob ! He got the place. He kept it ! He is dead. What profited him that he gained what was to him the whole world, while he lost his own honor and good name ?"

There is, after all, among men an innate recognition of what is just, and true and right, and although individuals are led away by ambition, or folly, or pride, still, taking men in the mass, they are ever ready to welcome the triumph of virtue and the defeat of vice. Go to a play : how the gods are pleased when the villain is baffled, when the hero and the innocent heroine are united ; how they applaud the noble sentiments, the fine speeches. How they unite in their dislike and detestation of the cheat, or the forger, or the rogue. Do not the boxes share these feelings. Is there not the story of Macready, who once brought on a play in which was represented a striking instance of treachery, where a character, conquered by a generous foe and having his sword returned to him, turned round and buried it in his opponent's breast. The burst of execration from the whole house was so great that it seemed for a moment as if the man's personal safety was endangered ; the curtain was rung down, and the play was never acted again. Is not reading history like looking at a play ? We are the spectators, they the actors. We weep for the innocence distressed ; we smile at the blunders ; we love the frankness, the geniality and the manliness of the victorious general or statesman ; and we detest the villainy of the rogue or the cheat, however successful, exactly in the same spirit as we do when we sit before the stage in an orchestra stall, or among the gods.

Of all the infamous men whom Rome produced, possibly the most infamous were the informers. Every country has had an experience of this class. England, during the time of the Dangerfields and the Oates ; France, during the time of Louis XI. ; unhappy Ireland, perennially ; the familiars of the Inquisition reduced Spain from the first power in Europe to the weakest and most insignificant. We ourselves know something of these gentry. Our system of giving half of the penalty to the whiskey detective has led to more perjury and more disgraceful scenes in our courts of justice than almost any other cause. But it seems to be tacitly admitted that some such protection is necessary for police purposes. But the very idea of a detective—an informer—makes most men pause, and even a casual meeting with such a person gives one an indescribable feeling of curiosity, admiration, fear and loathing. If this is the case in a country like ours, where if a man is not satisfied with his surroundings he can go elsewhere, and at all events can count on a fair trial, what must it have been at Rome, the very centre of the known world ; no hope of escape, no hope of justice ? The system, like most other bad systems, grew from a perversion of a good one.

Under the Republic there was a *lex majestatis*, which was a law against High Treason, whether it took the shape of treasonable betrayal of an army, or seditious conspiracy against the people, or generally a

the majesty of the Roman commonwealth by maladministration. Punishment during the Republic was the interdiction or forbidding water, or fire, that is, a deprivation of the chief necessities of life, involved also a loss of citizenship.* A subsequent law extended the same punishment to any person who sheltered an interdicted person. But up to the time of Augustus the penalty was inflicted only on overt acts; freedom of speech was at any rate ostensibly preserved. Cassius Severus, however, a public slanderer, against whom the Epode of Horace is supposed to be directed, so irritated Augustus by his satire, that the latter caused the law of High Treason to be extended to include slander and libel. In so doing Augustus seems to have had general support, as the persons slandered had been the most prominent men and women of Rome. But Tiberius saw what a weapon had been placed in his hands, and the term *majestas* was extended by him to all acts and words which might appear disrespectful to the Emperor. As soon as this interpretation became established, the *delator* or informer began to flourish, and the hateful spawn begot its progeny, worse even than itself, during almost the whole of the first century of our era. The first man who reduced the matter to a science—the Titus Oates of the period—was one Romanus Hispo. Poor, unknown, restless, pandering to the severity of the Emperor, he soon made existence dangerous to the most illustrious. He obtained credit with one man—hatred from all others. He set an example which taught others how to become rich from being poor; to become feared from being despised; and how to be a pest first to others and finally to themselves. The first instance given of the accusations of Hispo was a charge brought by him against one Marcellus, that he had spoken disparagingly of Tiberius—a difficult charge to meet, as if he had spoken of him at all, and spoken truly, he could not help speaking disparagingly. Under succeeding Emperors, up to the time of Nerva, the evil grew, and all confidence, friendship, or friendly intercourse was destroyed. Diabolical plots were hatched to entrap unwary victims, and the mere suspicion that the Prince was unfriendly to a man was sufficient to secure ample evidence of any charge invented to meet the case. This state of matters continued during the reigns of Nero and his three successors. Vespasian and Titus checked the evil; but the brightness of their short reigns was gloomily eclipsed by the cruel and sanguinary despotism of Domitian. Under him informers again thronged the courts; they did not ply their trade secretly but openly; they infested all public haunts—the Forum, even the temples; and it needed the strong hand of Trajan to break up the nest of insolent ruffians who persecuted decent men. Among the chief of these scoundrels was one Marcus Regulus. He seems to have been especially obnoxious to Pliny, who mentions him several times, and always with expressions of bitter dislike. The following letter gives a graphic account of a passage between them, and is interesting as showing to what trials public men at Rome were subject:

C. Pliny to Voconius Romanus, greeting: Have you seen anybody more timid and humble than Marcus Regulus since the death of Domitian? Under him, he had committed crimes not less than under Nero, but more secretly. He began to be afraid lest I would be angry with him. Nor was he wrong: I was angry. He had been an accessory to the death of Rusticus Arulenus, and had exulted in it so openly that he recited and published a pamphlet abusing Rusticus, and even called him the "Stoic's ape." He adds, "Branded with the Vitellian scar." You know the eloquence of Regulus. He inveighed against Herennius Senecio [whose condemnation Metius Carus had procured] so vehemently, that Carus said to him: "What have you to do with my dead men? Do I interfere with either Crassus or Camerinus?" whom Regulus had accused under Nero. Regulus believed that I did not like these things; so much so, that when he recited his pamphlet he did not invite me. Besides, he remembered how dangerously he had attacked me before the Centumviri. I was defending Arionilla, the wife of Timon, at the request of Arulenus Rusticus. Regulus was prosecuting. We were arguing at one stage of the case over an opinion given by Metius Modestus, a well known man. He was then in exile, banished by Domitian. Says Regulus: Pray, Secundus, what do you think of Modestus? You see what danger I was in if I answered, Well; what dishonor if I said, Not well. I cannot say that anything else except the gods helped me. I will let you know, said I, what my opinion is, if that is the matter about which the Judges are here to decide. Again said he: But tell me, what do you think of Modestus? A second time I replied: Witnesses are usually examined as against those who are accused, not against those who are already condemned. A third time he asked: Now, what do you think, not of Modestus, but of the loyalty of Modestus? You ask, I said, what I think. Well, I think it is not proper even to ask about a matter concerning which judgment has been given. He held his tongue; I obtained praise and congratulation because I had not injured my reputation by any answer, possibly advantageous but dishonest, nor had I allowed myself to be caught in the toils of so insidious a questioning.

We would like to give the rest of the letter, showing how Regulus cringed afterwards to Pliny for forgiveness, but space forbids. All we

* In England the crimes which would come under *majestas* were more severely punished. Typical cases of the three classes of crime enumerated were Admiral Byng, Strafford, and James II.

can say is, that this same Regulus is described in another letter as having lost a son, whom he mourned in an insano way. He slaughtered the poor boy's harmless ponies, dogs, nightingales, parrots and black-birds around the funeral pyre; and after doing all that, he threatened to marry again; a proceeding which Pliny characterizes as both too early and too late—the latter on account of his age, the former on account of his mourning, and he adds:

Why do I say this, you ask; not because he says so himself, because a greater liar never stepped, but because it is certain that Regulus will do the very thing that ought not to be done.

Pliny survived Regulus, as appears from the second epistle of the Sixth Book. It is a curious fact that Martial praises Regulus to the skies; but Martial was a flatterer of Domitian, and his praises are a worse condemnation of Regulus than even Pliny's outspoken contempt. It is evident that Regulus was a type of the shrewd, insolent, fellow who thrives in days of rings and corruptions, and who, when better times come, goes back to his native abasement. The race is not dead yet.

PROFESSOR MARTIN'S PHYSIOLOGY.*

Being asked by a friend whether I could account in any general way for the enormous production of new books treating of the principles and foundations of different branches of science, literature and art, at the present day, I answered, that never before had such a multiplicity of *doctrinæ*, and a high appreciation of their co-relations, lent the combined knowledge of their phenomena to the elucidation of any one of them. It is not only owing to the dissection of knowledge and the tracing of its structures to their ultimate elements that we are enabled to concentrate the labors of a lifetime on a single organism or a single problem; but—and especially—to the recognition of the necessity of bringing to bear on one subject the knowledge derived from every other, the convergence of the *multa* to the *multum*. In Physiology we have a very striking example of this inter-action of the sciences. The chain of which it is a link seems endless. Psychology is day by day drawing more from its precepts; Metaphysics has long since confessed its obligations to it; the Moral Sciences, Herbert Spencer shows us, do the same; and the highest and most complex of all—Sociology—is most intimately connected with it; in fact, we may go so far as to say, is founded on it. For may we not regard Sociology as the Physiology of the nation, the framework of which is Ethnology, Climatic influences, and Politics, corresponding to Anatomy, Chemistry and Physics, the framework of the Physiology of the Individual? Of the sciences which aid the study of Physiology, too, the name is legion. When we turn over the leaves of Hermann, or read that, according to Fechner's psycho-physical law, *sensation increases proportionately to the logarithm of the strength of the stimulus*, we should run the risk of erring if we eliminated even the exact sciences.

The force of these remarks will be evident on the perusal of Dr. Martin's recently published work. *The Human Body* was, I have no doubt, looked forward to with anticipations of pleasure by all biologists; and a Master of Arts, Doctor of Science and Medicine, the fellow-worker of Huxley and pupil of Michael Foster, who had already gained fame as a writer, and enjoyed the advantages of a professorship at Johns Hopkins, might well merit such expectations. Yet I cannot help thinking, to many physiologists it must have been to a certain extent a disappointment; not so much, however, from Dr. Martin's faulty treatment of his subject, as from the vividness of these anticipations. The fact is, the work is intended, not for the advanced physiologist, but for those who are but entering upon the subject, and without any previous knowledge of even its basal propositions. For example: the author refrains from discussing contending theories, sometimes even on important subjects, *e. g.*, the histology of the liver and the malphigian corpuscles of the kidney; he devotes much space—in plates and text—to gross anatomy; does not enter sufficiently deeply into the minute anatomy of many important viscera; rarely points out the method by which conclusions are arrived at, such as pulse-tracings, electrical stimuli, &c.; and on one of the most important set of structures, of the functions of which there is still very much to learn, *viz.*, the mesenteric glands, his remarks are very meagre; the list might be lengthened indefinitely. Hence, we must not compare this work with Carpenter or Dalton, Foster, Hermann, or even Kirke. The first sentence of the preface explains its objects: "I have endeavored to give an account of the structure and activities of the human body, which, while intelligible to the general reader, shall be accurate, and sufficiently minute in details to meet the requirements of students who are not making Human Anatomy and Physiology subjects of special advanced study. Wherever it seemed to me really profitable, hygienic topics have also been discussed;" and under this heading Dr. Martin

* *The Human Body; an account of its structure and activities, and the conditions of its healthy working.* By H. N. MARTIN. Holt & Co. 1881.

feels at liberty to give us many an original gem which, strictly speaking, belongs to the domain of Therapeutics, or Bromatology, or Medicine.

The bent of the book is exceedingly practical in language, illustrations, topics and hints. It will tell you when to bathe, how to cook, why beef-tea is not as nourishing as supposed, what is the cheapest food producible by a nation, how to avoid catching cold, rivalling even the practical Ringer in his own subject. For example, of alcohol he says: "If alcohol is to be used as a daily article of diet, it should be borne in mind that when concentrated it coagulates the proteids of the cells of the stomach with which it comes in contact in the same sort of way, though of course to a much less degree, as it shrivels and dries up an animal preserved in it. Dilute alcoholic drinks, such as claret and beer, are therefore far less baneful than whiskey or brandy, and these are worst of all in the almost undiluted form of most 'mixed drinks.' For the same reason alcohol is far more injurious on an empty stomach than after a meal. The old 'three bottle' men who drank their port-wine after a heavy dinner got off far more safely than the modern tippler who is taking 'nips' all day long."

For these reasons a better book could not be imagined for those who, without an intimate acquaintance with Anatomy and Histology, and wishing to escape technicalities as much as possible, want to obtain a really useful and thorough knowledge of Physiology. To a medical man, however, I cannot recommend Martin; proximate principles are not sufficiently treated; there is a great lack of Morbid Physiology; Embryology and Development, though really belonging to Morphology, should have a larger space devoted to them; and of course, to any one having opportunities for vivisection and the mounting of specimens, the work under consideration would give place to Klein, Milne Edwards, Müller's 'Archiv,' and others. For laymen, however, it is just what is wanted; full of common sense, made absorbingly interesting by quotations, analogies, proofs of the practical bearing of scientific truths, &c.; in fact, the very book for the Natural Sciences Department of the Arts course.

H.

'VARSITY SPORT.

BICYCLE clubs are being formed in many American colleges, and the interest manifested in the wheel is growing greater and greater. The club at St. Paul's, Concord, has now a membership of thirty, there being two hundred and fifty students in the school. In connection with this sport the *University Magazine* comments: "The growing popularity of bicycling, not only as a pleasant and healthful means of exercise, but as a recognized college sport, leads us strongly to favor its encouragement at the University." Is the bicycle likely to become known at University College, or is it an animal to be looked at with suspicion?

Ann Arbor Chronicle: "The lovers of Rugby foot-ball have again turned their attention to this sport, induced by the prospect of games with Harvard, Yale and Princeton. Challenges from us have been accepted by these three colleges, and it is with pleasure that we see the boys enter into their practice with the old vim that told so well against Racine and Toronto.

Brooklyn Polytechnic: "The students of Harvard are organizing a foot-ball association. A committee on constitution reported one substantially the same as that of the Princeton Club, which has been so successful. Several games will be played with Canadian elevens, if possible, at Cambridge.

RECRUIT drill was conducted on the lawn on Wednesday afternoon by Lieut. Acheson and Sergt. Wishart.

THE Association Foot-ball Club practises every afternoon, and the Rugby Union three afternoons a week.

THE name of Mr. A. Y. Scott was omitted last week from the list of newly appointed corporals of "K" Company.

THIS "Rugby" season in Toronto will be remarkable, if for nothing else, for the number of accidents recorded. There are a good number of clubs in the city now, and nearly every one can show a passable accident record.

"K" COMPANY was specially and highly complimented by the Colonel of the Q. O. R. at the last battalion drill. It deserved the compliment, as it has this year shown itself to be well drilled, and has always the largest turn-out at Wednesday-night drill.

THE First and Second "elevens" of the Association Foot-ball Club had a practice match on the lawn on Monday last. When dark put an end to the play, each side had scored a goal; thus showing that there is this year no lack of recruits, and that the Association will at least not suffer from scarcity of players. A team will go to Berlin soon. We think it would be wise to arrange matches for the second team, if possible. Matches are the best practice, and it is from the second team that the first must in future be recruited.

YALE has a yacht club and a bicycle rink.

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Wolstenholme's Problems.	Etc., etc.	Etc., Etc.

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