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VOL. II., No. 7.

UPPER CANADA COLLEGE, MAY 27, 1872.

WHOLE No. 17.

The College Times.

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REMARKS ON CRICKET.

SIR,—I have taken upon myself, who am a Lover of Cricket, and a careful scrutineer of the playing of most of the boys at College, especially of those in the Senior Forms, to offer a few remarks upon the game as I see it played on your ground, hoping that you will grant me the favor of making your paper the medium, through which I may reach the boys.

I have not much to say about the *bowling*, but a good deal about *batting*, and still more about *fielding*.

The bowling is very well done indeed by one or two of the boys, who bowl pretty well on the wickets, and with a very good pitch. But let me say to those who are beginning to bowl not to deliver too fast a ball for their strength, but let the balls first be slow and well pitched, and then after that has been accomplished, let them increase in speed. It is better for beginners to learn to bowl *round-arm* and not nearly *over-arm*, as I see some doing. It does not look well, and no very great speed can be obtained that way.

Now about *batting*. The first thing to be noticed by the batter is the "black-hole" and "centre" (this, I suppose, seems to some to be too trifling a matter to attend particularly to, but I consider it very important, and so I speak about it), and then he ought to stand in an easy position, so as to be able to move in the twinkling of an eye in any direction. He should thus before every ball make sure of his position, and mark where the black-hole is. What I am now about to say is very particular—the batter should always play with a straight bat, that is held up vertically, and not scoop as many of your Club do, and he should watch the ball from the instant it leaves the bowler's hand till he hits it or it passes him, never looking behind, but watching his mate at the other wicket, who must motion or call to him either to "come on" or to "stay." The batter must never strike a ball across his wickets, but must learn to cut or slip them, considering it of more importance to learn to play correctly, and perhaps be put out a few times at first than to make such a play as that. I see too much stiff, awkward playing on the part of the batters, than I think is necessary, and I would advise a steady and yet a free style of batting, instead of hardly striking at any ball, unless it cannot

be helped (which is very common among the boys). Experience and observation show that nine-tenths of those who are struck on the shins or elsewhere are nervous and shaky fellows, while those who stand up manfully and hit the ball off their legs instead of getting out of its way never or very seldom are struck, so I would say to the timid, guard your legs by striking the ball off them instead of jumping out of the way.

Now about *fielding*, which is the most important part of cricket. It is said that the "Gentlemen Players" of England beat the "Professionals," on account of their good fielding, although the latter are perhaps the better batters and bowlers. Now I will not say anything about catching, for every boy ought to be able to catch any ball he can reach, and if he cannot he is not fit for any first eleven, but what I see wanting in your fielding is that pluck—yes, good pluck—in reaching down to stop a ball, and in not being afraid to stop a swift catch. Perhaps these boys of tender hands say, "Oh wait till we play a match, and then see if we won't stop them." This is a great mistake. Any fellow who will not stop a ball at practice, will not stop one in a match. Fielding has to be learned just as well as Latin or Arithmetic before a boy can pick up a ball well, a throw on the wickets, and that too only by constant practice. Now, I was at U. C. College for four years, and in those days our Cricket Club had the best fielders in Canada, and there is no reason why the same should not be the case at the present time, if the boys would only take the trouble to exert themselves a little more than they do. Another point in good fielding is to run to meet a ball instead of waiting till it comes into your hands. By this, a run here and there in an innings is saved, which in the end deducts several from the other side's score. Allow me to make this closing remark on *fielding*. Do not strike an attitude with your hands leaning on your knees, and the weight therefore of your body coming on your hands, which does not let them be free and loose, but rather have your muscles all braced, and your hands free from all obstacles, and be ready to spring in any direction.

These are only general remarks upon cricket, as I see it played in the College ground this season, and I trust that they will be accepted by the members of your Club, and that the boys will find them both practiced and beneficial if observed.

Hoping that the ditch will be speedily set to rights, and that College may send out a better team than formerly. I am, Sir, yours truly,

A "LOVER OF CRICKET."

—Communicated.

A GRAVE MESSAGE.—When Lord Norbury was lying at death's door, he heard that his neighbor, Lord Erne, was in the same predicament. "James," said he, "run next door, and tell Lord Erne, with my compliments that it has now become a *dead heat* between us!"

Swift was one day in company with a young coxcomb who, rising from his chair, said, with a conceited and confident air, "I would have you to know, Mr. Dean, I set myself up for a wit." "Do you, indeed?" said the Dean, "then take my advice, and sit down again."

A Pat, an old joker, and Yankee, were fly, Once riding together, a gallows pass'd by: Said the Yankee to Pat, "If I don't make too free, Give the gallows its due, and pray where would you be?" "Why honey," quoth Pat, "faith, that's easily known, I'd be riding to town by myself all alone."

TO REMEMBER THE LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE OF A PLACE.

There is an easy way, 'tis said,
The Lat. and Long. to find;
And when you once have mastered it,
It can't escape the mind.

In place of consonants we put
Figures, from one to ten;
But vowels are not reckon'd
By geographic men.

For 'd' and 't' the figure 1;
And 2 for two stroked 'n';
3 next in turn is placed instead
Of three-stroked letter 'm.'

Put 4 for 'r,' and 5 for 'l,'
As erst by Romans done;
6 is now placed for many sounds,
As 'j-g-sh-ch-tion.'

For 'k-c-q-qu-ng' put 7,
And 8 for 'f-ph-v';
9 in the place of 'b-p' set,
And 'nought' for 'z-s-c.'

We thus have formed our tables short
The letters they embrace;
But we must get some little phrase
Alluding to each place.

For Dublin there's the comic clause:
"Hot dumplings in a stew
Are not the most delightful dish
For any old lame Jew."

Now taking 'l' and 'm' and 'j,'
We find 5, 3, and 6,
Which makes, for Latitude, 53°;
And Longitude west, 6°.

Yet take another instance of
The little plan we've tried,
Which can, to dates and distances,
Be also well applied.

For Bagdad is the trifling pun;
(Please faint not on the floor)
"If you put in a bag your dad
You'll make your Mama roar."

Now breaking up the last two words,
Take out m-m-r-r-r,
And by the tables these denote
Lat. 33°, Long. 44°.

R.D.R.

The conversation at Holland House turned on first love. Thomas Moore compared it to a potato, because "it shoots from the eye," "or rather," exclaimed Byron, "because it becomes less by pairing."

It is a popular fallacy to think it's proper to say to a friend, "I'll be with you on such a day if I'm alive." Few people would expect you, if dead.

Booth, the tragedian, had a broken nose. A lady once remarked to him, "I like your acting, Mr. Booth; but, to be frank with you, I can't get over your nose!" "No wonder, madam," replied he, "the bridge is gone."

PRIZE POEMS.

Formerly it was the custom at College to offer a prize for the best poem that was written by the College boys from year to year. For three years this prize and competition have not been forthcoming. It would not, we think, be doing justice to the boys of the Sixth Forms of those years to say that it was for want of genius on their part that the prize was not contended for; for, in looking over their record at the University and a few pieces in our issues of last year, surely enough talent, if not inspiration, is apparent to warrant us in thinking something creditable might have been done. Nor would it be prudent on our part to say that it was from pure neglect by those in authority that the prize was not offered. We prefer rather to think that the omission has occurred from some mischance in the first place and then allowed to continue. We are sorry for this, because we think that the competition has many things to recommend it. Nor do we think that the poem should necessarily be an English poem, for, though even some of the highest form are poor enough at their Latin prose and verse, the stimulus which would be given by such competition would cause a more active and careful attention to rules and constructions. The Elegiacs and Alcaics would become more perfect, and thus lead masters to take, if possible, a greater interest in this department. We understand that an Elegiac or Alcaic is one of the accomplishments of University honour-students who take up a certain course. As the whole or nearly all of those who are trained have to follow that course, it would at least give us some idea of what such a competition would be, so that when we come to the University we might make a better show: a result of great benefit to ourselves and no detraction at least from the College training. Several times, of late, the matter has been talked over by the boys of the Sixth, and they unanimously came to the conclusion that it would have been a first rate thing if the competition had been brought before them. Some highly creditable English prize poems have been written in former College years, and unless the College has degenerated, or at least the standard of its highest pupils—which we are not prepared to admit—we do not see why something quite as creditable could not be done to-day; and, from all we can learn, the same opinion is held by all the masters with whom we have had any conversation on the subject. How, then, it came about that the prize is not contended for seems to us unexplainable. No opposition has ever been offered, so far as we know, and it seems, as we said before, to have just dropped out of the College course without any one being ready to replace it. Having an eye to the improvement and advantage of the boys at present here, as well as the College in general, as we always do here, we say that the custom of competing annually for a prize poem should still be continued. It may be too late to offer one this year; that, however, is a matter to be decided by the Principal and masters. We are sorry that the question was not mentioned and debated sooner than it has been; at any rate, we would advocate that in future years the time-honoured and disciplinary competition for a Prize Poem be continued.

R. A.

U. C. COLLEGE LITERARY SOCIETY.

TWENTIETH MEETING.

The Society met in the Prayer-room, May 10th, the President, J. G. McKeown, in the chair. After the roll was called, the minutes,—in which the style, preparation and elocutionary powers of the different speakers and readers were criticized in an impartial manner,—were read and adopted.

The Society next fell to business, or rather would have, if there had been any for their consideration.

This item being rapidly got through, a Chairman was required, and the lot fell upon H. E. Morphy, who proved himself well worthy of that high honour.

The readings were then proceeded with, G. Blackstock rendering with subdued emotion Artemus Ward's experience of Woman's Rights in the State of Inglianny." Longfellow's Warden of the Cinque Ports, was read by F. E. Hodgins, after which R. Atkinson rose and delivered his arguments in favour of Country Life as against that in the City. W. H. Langton followed on the negative. Each of these two established the theoretical accuracy of their own views to the satisfaction of everybody, but after J. A. Patterson had spoken, W. H. Aikins took a severely practical view of the question, clearly showing by statistics that at rate ten years ago, city life was as healthy as country life, and he didn't see why it was not so now. R. D. Richardson argued on the affirmative, and P. Bryce on the negative, after which the Chairman having given a careful consideration to the arguments, and without any preconceived prejudice, etc., decided in favour of City Life. This pleased the members of the Society, who evidently wish to guard themselves from the imputation of being "young men from the country."

After a vote of thanks had been presented to the Chairman, the following announcement was made:—Subject of debate: "Is Education for a definite path of life, more advantageous than a general education?" Affirmative: J. G. McKeown (leader). Negative: F. E. Hodgins (leader). Readers: W. H. Aikins and E. Proctor.

The Society then adjourned.

TWENTH-FIRST MEETING.

The Society met in the Prayer-room, May 17th, the President in the chair. After the roll was called, the minutes of last meeting was read and adopted.

On new business being called for, W. A. Langton rose and stated that he had in his possession a prize from the College games of last year, and one which had not then been utilized. He conceived that as much of the money, realized by the *College Times* of the previous year, had been used to defray some expenses incurred by those games, this prize should be considered as the property of the Society. On motion by Atkinson that this prize be appropriated to some literary competition, W. A. Langton moved that the Society resolve itself into Committee of the Whole, to consider what style of competition should be adopted for this prize.

The meeting accordingly went into Committee, W. N. Ponton in the chair. After considerable discussion, J. G. McKeown moved, that the prize be awarded for the best Poem. F. E. Hodgins then moved in amendment that it be awarded for the best Essay, and W. N. Langton for the best Oration before the Society. A vote was taken, which the postasters, led on by *ipse poeta* of the *College Times*, claimed to have won on the ground that a member could only vote for one amendment. It was, however, decided that by all precedent every member could vote on each amendment. The division was then taken, the Poets contenting themselves with opposing both Oration and Essay. The Oration was lost, and on the Essay there was a tie. The Chairman delivered his casting vote in favour of an Essay, after which it was decided that the Principal should be asked to suggest a subject. The Committee then rose and reported progress, and the Society adjourned after a very interesting meeting, and feeling deeply for the loss that the absentees had unwittingly experienced.

A wag, reading in one of Brigham Young's manifestoes, "that the great resources of Utah are her women," exclaimed, "It's very evident that the prophet is disposed to husband his resources."

"PARTURIENT MONEST, NASCETUR RIDICULUS MUS."

HORACE.

'Tis noon, and thronged the boarders dining hall,
A busy bee-like murmur fills the room,
Commingled with the clash of knives and forks
In fierce attack. The nimble (?) waiters flit
About the room with plates of nutriment;
This eager to deposit at its bourne
A plate of "roast beef, rare, and lots of fat,"
And that, with "outside piece and hurry up,"
Or "meat-pie, lots of crust;" and "John" and "George"
Bursts from the universal mouth of ninety boys,
At all times ravenous, now still more keen,
As round the expectant nostrils wreaths the steam
With savoury odour fragrant—And the hum
Swells higher—and the clatter louder grows:
But hush!—A sudden stillness seems to drop
Upon the room and hushed is every sound.
Each joins unconsciously the general still
Though knowing not the cause. Deep silence reigns
As thro' the portal strides, with streaming gown
And face of fearful import, he who aways
With nod the boarders and the boarding house.
What would he have at this unnatural time?

The host turns, the unmasticated piece
Bulging his cheek, and with drawn breath
And quivering expectation waits the event.
The guilty trembles, by his conscience made
An arrant coward; while in his virtue wrapt
The blameless fears not for himself, but yet
He sits as much agaze, and not without
A secret sort of joy that some one else
May smart, or that excitement in some sort
Intrudes enlivening influence on the feast.

Meanwhile the Thunderer strides, his every step
The languid echo on the noiseless walls
Arousing, and his sternest look assumed
Impressing all with sense of weighty cause
For this unthought appearance.

Now he stops

Hard by that table where the fifth and sixth
Refresh exhausted nature! Now he speaks!
And mid the general hush and silence deep
Is borne across the room in accents mild
"The day-boys, Cronyn, want a cricket ball."

GUILHELMUS AHENOBARBUS.

During the revolutionary excitement in 1848, it was reported in the papers that the King of Prussia had abdicated. The mistake originated with the electric telegraph, which sent the following despatch: "The—King—of—Prussia—has—gone—to—Pot—," at which stage the communication abruptly terminated for a while. The concluding letters of the word, "adam," were not telegraphed till after the messenger had hurried out of the office.

Curran and Egan falling out, they met to settle their differences at the pistol's muzzle. On the ground, Egan complained that the disparity of their sizes gave his antagonist a manifest advantage. "I might as well," said he, "fire at a razor's edge as at him, and he might hit me as easily as a hay-stack." "I tell you what, Mr. Egan," replied Curran, "I wish to take no advantage of you whatever—let myself be chalked out upon your side, and I am quite content that every shot which hits outside that mark should go for nothing!" There was an end to the duel.

As Jekyll walked out in his gown and his wig,
He happened to tread on a very small pig;
"Pig of science," he said, "or else I'm mistaken,
For surely thou art an abridgment of Bacon!"

Hood suggests that the phrase, "*Republic of letters*," was hit upon to insinuate that, taking the whole lot of authors together, they had not got a sovereign amongst them.

THE COLLEGE.

BIRTH.—On Monday, the 20th instant, at U. C. College, the wife of James Brown, M.A., of a son.

IMPORTANT.—In accordance with a vote on Friday afternoon, the 17th May, a prize for the best essay on a given subject will be offered by the U. C. College Literary Society for competition among its ordinary members. The subject will be published as early as possible in the *College Times*, as well as all regulations, and the name of the judges. Full particulars will be given on application to the Editor. Mottoes must be appended, but observe that "*Nil sine labore*," will not this time be allowed, and "*Labor omnia vincit*," will be damned.

ACCIDENT.—On Monday last, at the eleven o'clock intermission, Coleman of II. B., fell in the Gymnasium, and broke his arm. Fortunately, Dr. Barrett was walking out on the boards, and set the arm on the spot, taking Coleman into the Boarding House to bandage it.

CRICKET.—As the College was so badly beaten in its match against the Fifth Form, a return match was played next week to give Fortune a chance to change. At first appearances were much in favour of the College. They sent their opponents to the bat, and succeeded in getting them out in a very short time with the trifling score of 29 runs; however, they were themselves soon disposed of with a score of but 4 more than their opponents. The Fifth went in again, and when the dinner-bell rang were rapidly closing on 100, with only three or four wickets down. Spragge—who went in second—and Brown carried their bats, both with a large score against their names.

Ever since the grass began to grow green the minds of the Cricket Committee have been much disturbed by a diminutive Slough of Despond which made its appearance at the corner of the cricketers' crease, and obstinately refused to dry up with the hottest sun. Indeed it seemed so much on the increase, that about a week ago exploratory excavations were instituted by the Principal to see if the cause were not some secret spring. At a few feet below the surface, the workmen hit upon an old drain, of the existence of which the oldest inhabitant had never dreamt. It comes from somewhere in the John Street direction, and must have stopped up somewhere, though it seems to run very well in the trough that is left. It will, we believe, be opened into our own drain; but, in the mean time, the trench that has been dug is left open, and, at the time of going to press, nothing has been done to disturb this valuable archaeological treasure. If this has been done to allow the smell to evaporate, the experiment has not been successful, and perhaps it would not be amiss now to try the other plan of bricking up and filling in the drain.

CRICKET MATCH.—A challenge was received a little while ago from Hellmuth College, inviting our eleven to play them on the Queen's Birthday, either on their own ground or at any other place of meeting we should propose. This match has been often attempted, but have never been brought about, owing to the distance that lies between us. This time, however, it was proposed to meet the Hellmuth eleven half-way, and the Hamilton Club having kindly lent their ground, the match will be played at Hamilton on the 25th. A challenge has been received from Trinity College, Port Hope, but as it was for the same day, this match has been obliged to be postponed till some future Saturday.

Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE COLLEGE TIMES.

MR. EDITOR,—Whose dog is that with the doleful voice that nightly "bays the moon" in such close proximity to the Boarding House. Nightly he lifts up his nose and howls in the manner commonly known as the crying of a dog.

It is a sound of bad omen to be heard at night, and ought to be enough to freeze the marrow in the bones of any boarder but lately escape from the apron-string of a garrulous nurse. But whether superstitious or not, any one who is courting sleep in vain is not likely to be over delighted at this nightly serenade.

If it is "the moaning of the *tied*," perhaps it might cease with the discontinuance of restraint.

BOARDER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE COLLEGE TIMES.

DEAR SIR,—A short time ago there appeared in the *COLLEGE TIMES* a communication from a correspondent signing himself P. R. E. P. Who he is, or what these four letters are intended to signify, I know not. I could, however, readily discern the connection if they were put for "proposterous," as characteristic of the ideas, or even of "preparation," referring to his sanctum of study, or if each letter represented a different writer, indicative of the fact that the communication was the joint production of four minds, all united under the one "P" for the sake of appearance.

This last idea is suggested by the form and style of the communication, which to my mind consists of four separate parts as blank and unconnected as they could well be. However, out of pity, we will not consider it the work of four, as there is barely enough in it to show that even one wrote it.

His first paragraph contains the wish to come out as an outside supporter of the *COLLEGE TIMES*—one who takes great pleasure in seeking and obtaining the opinions of thinking (?) people on the propriety of printing the doings of the Society—opinions, indeed, both of the fair and unfair sex, to which latter sex he evidently belongs. Then follows an attempt at a little "withering sarcasm," hurled with hostile hand against the obtuse and stupid Michael Ford.

We next have a collection of terms derived from an article which graced last year's paper (we beg him not to be ashamed of this, as the *COLLEGE TIMES* furnishes ideas to greater heads than his), and also a short extract founded on Cicero, showing the advantages of literary culture.

And lastly, the statement that many arguments could be brought to bear on the subject, the whole noble peroration ending with a grand master-stroke of wit, no doubt more flashing than the rays of the noonday sun, but, alas! much less apt to strike one very forcibly.

In his first wanderings he vividly portrays his conversations with the outside world, particularly with ladies, all of whom, he says, consider these reports the most pleasant reading in the whole paper. Oh, how I wish I were a lady, if only to take delight in reading of the Society's doings! However, should my wish be granted, I prefer being unknown to him, in case he is always as complimentary as he has shown himself in the letter. "Their visits have not been as *angels'* visits." Certainly he cannot call himself a lady's man and say that. I am very much afraid he stands unsupported in this statement, at least among the *COLLEGE TIMES'* staff. He is both true and in error when he says that "the opinion of the old College boys is not much esteemed by their former associates." I confess this to be a fact with regard to the opinions of some, and possibly his own experience gives him some foundation for that assertion; but I can assure him that as a rule, the opinion of the "old boys" is held in the highest regard.

His next argument is that the Society sits with doors closed against the masters. He is certainly wrong here, as I am sure that if one of the shining lights from that opposition conclave, held on the same evening as our Society, would make his appearance, either as the bearer of a message of greeting, and desire to be on a friendly footing with us, or even in order to gratify his love of good debating (not at all wishing to infer that such is not a predominant feature in their meetings), his entrance would be hailed with rapturous applause. As regards those boys who have a curiosity to know of the Society's doings, is it true that your correspondent has not noticed that only those are not *admitted as members* who would take no interest in *hearing* the debates and proceedings, much less in *reading* the reports of such in the *COLLEGE TIMES*?

I do not wish to reflect at all on the writer of the letter. I wish to be liberal, and am willing to grant him his sole request, and give him (an outsider, as he claims to be) "credit for fair abilities, mingled with *perhaps* a grain, here and there, of common sense." I cordially agree with him that the Society's meetings are for good, but I am much mistaken if the report of one debate after another being postponed, of readers being absent and consequently no readings, of the difficulty incurred in levying a tax of *ten* cents on every member, and other matters of this kind, can be very instrumental in gaining for it the approval of the outside world.

In conclusion, allow me to say that the reports, as they appeared in one of the first issues of this year, were calculated both to afford amusement and to awaken an interest in the Society. I think the idea of making them light reading is a good one, and feel sure that many of your readers would be pleased to see a repetition of that style in the future.

I remain, my dear sir,

Yours, etc.,

ANTI-P. R. E. P.

TO OUR DEARLY BELOVED AND VERY AFFECTIONATE FRIEND,
B. G. D.,

(With whose business we very unwisely interfere.)

We sincerely hope that she will continue to patronize the old lady across the way, and also enrich the *COLLEGE TIMES* by her contributions:—

Our correspondent, B. G. D.,
Assumes that we have her offended;
We hope our friend will pardon us,
We're sure offence was *not* intended.

Our poetry is not the best,
Nor yet at all our composition;
Our nonsense now we must give up,
And try to better our position.

It's not for us to interfere
Where ladies buy their cakes and coffee;
But all who have a cent to spare
Support the *taffy shop* for *toffy*.

If our fair friend would let us know
When she would come, and not be fooling,
We'd have her *sticks* already made,
And have them "spit upon" and cooling.

Our hats we'd doff at her approach,
Our love for her is growing hotter;
We hope *her* purse may never fail,
Since we'll then never want a copper.

J. O. A.

In the course of an examination for the degree of B.A. in the Senate-house, Cambridge, under an examiner whose name was Payne, one of the questions was, "Give a definition of happiness," to which a candidate returned the following laconic answer: "An exemption from *Payne*."

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