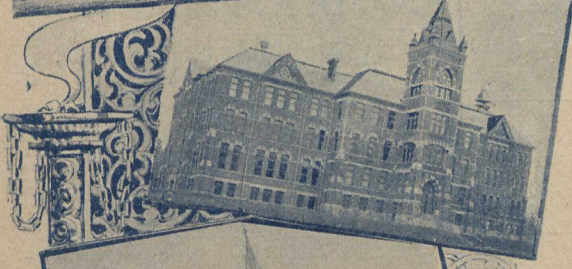
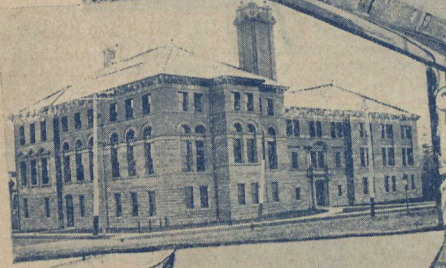
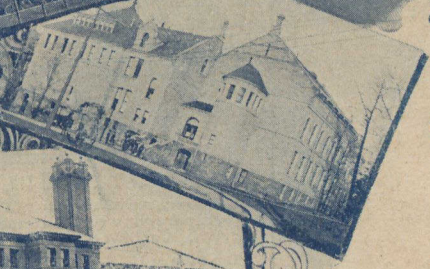
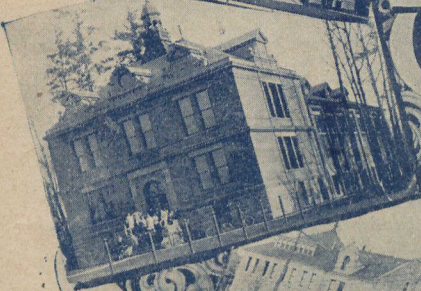
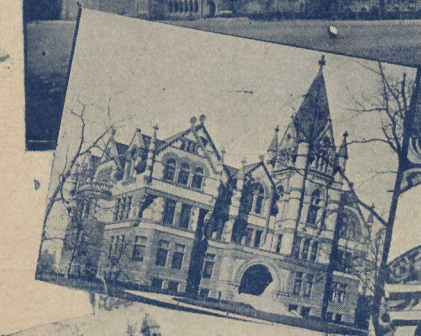
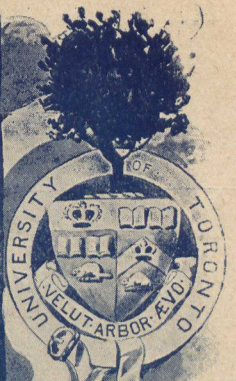


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THE VARSITY

VOL XVI. No. 16.

University of Toronto.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY 17TH, 1897.

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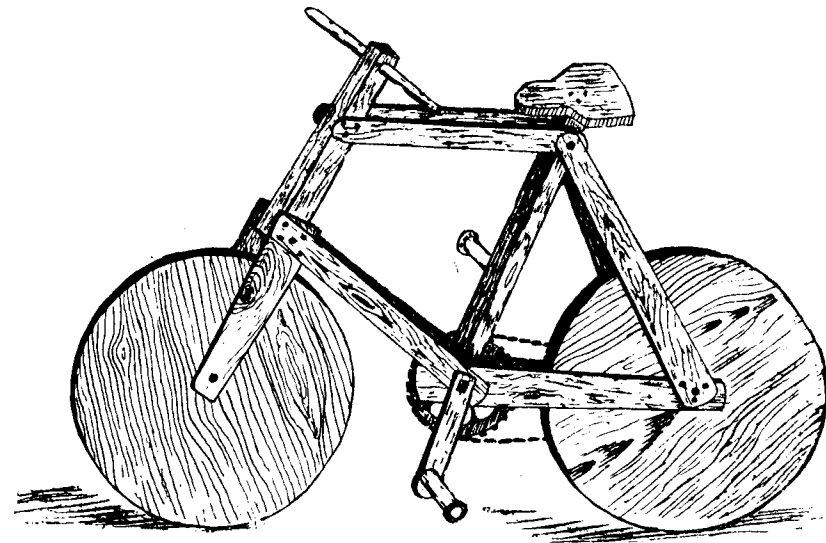
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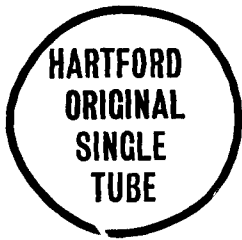
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THE VARSITY.

A Weekly Journal of Literature, University Thought and Events.

VOL. XVI.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, FEBRUARY 17, 1897.

No. 16.

DREAMLAND.

'Tis midnight's hour, and all the land
Is wrapt in slumber calm and deep,
For nature's soft caressing hand
Hath soothed our souls in sweetest sleep.

She spins a web across our eyes—
A magic web that seals them tight,
She wafts our souls thro' azure skies
And 'mid the wonderlands of night ;

And there past scenes, thro' softest light,
Of youthful days, and olden times,
Rest for a little on our sight—
Then melt away like dying chimes

We're young once more and breathing love
At eventide to fairest maids,
And swearing by the gods above,
Our love is love that never fades.

Again return our childhood's days,
When we were sheltered from life's storm,
We see our good old father's face,
And our dear mother's loving form.

Sweet sleep! or rather dreamland sweet,
I love thee for thou lead'st me thro'
Thy sunny ways, again to greet
Old faces, happy times renew.

WILHELM

SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY LIFE.

The Scottish student, at least "the lad o' pairts," whose picture, like the portraits of royalty, has travelled far afield by way of the genius of such men as Ian Maclaren, has obtained much foreign recognition because of his really stoical indifference to personal discomforts for sake of a college education ; but every year, almost, is lessening the opportunity and occasion for such heroic privations. For, although there is no university in Scotland that has, in the matter of endowments, scholarships, etc., a moiety of the wealth of Oxford or Cambridge, yet the disparity in comparison is more apparent than real, for in Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Glasgow the scholarships are large and numerous enough to supply the by no means ambitious bodily wants of nearly ever student of talent and deserving industry.

Unlike those two famous English seminaries, the Scotch University is not a finishing school. "You do not care," said Huxley in his Rectorial address at Aberdeen in 1874, "to make your university a school of manners for the rich ; of sports for the athletic ; or a hot-bed of high-ted, hypercritical refinement, more destructive to vigor and originality than are starvation and oppression. No ; your little bursaries of ten and twenty (I believe even fifty) pounds a year, enabled any boy who has shown ability in the course of his education in those remarkable primary

schools, which have made Scotland the power she is, to obtain the highest culture the country can give him ; and when he is armed and equipped, his Spartan Alma Mater tells him that, so far, he has had his wages for his work, and that he may go and earn the rest. When I think of the host of pleasant, moneyed, well-bred young gentlemen, who do a little learning and much boating by Cam and Isis, the vision is a pleasant one. . . . And when I turn from this picture to the no less real vision of many a brave and frugal Scotch boy, spending his summer in hard, manual labor, that he may have the privilege of wending his way in autumn to this university, with a bag of oatmeal, ten pounds in his pocket, and his own stout heart to depend upon through the northern winter . . . determined to wring knowledge from the hands of penury ; when I see him win, through all such outward obstacles, to positions of wide usefulness and well-earned fame, I cannot but think that, in essence, Aberdeen has departed but little from the primitive intention of the founders of universities, and that the spirit of reform has so much to do on the other side of the border, that it may be long before he has leisure to look this way." The "bag of oatmeal" has something in fact to warrant the use of it in this connection, though the downrightness of the phrase would impress Huxley's hearers with its grotesqueness rather than with any sense of general truthfulness, but the point of this extract is, that the Scottish University is preparatory, while it may be added that it is not needlessly elementary. The curriculum is for nearly every man a means to an end, and perhaps it is for this reason that the college course of the majority of Scotch students seems sombre in comparison with the friskiness and free living which are popularly supposed to enter importantly into the lives of gentlemen of leisure at the more aristocratic seats of learning. And it is most probable for this reason chiefly that since a man's start in his chosen work begins where his university career ends, and since it is of immense practical service at the outset, that he has done well as a student, the spirit of competition is intense. The two brilliant men who have outdistanced all competitors are battling for first and second place. The strain is terrible. Hundreds of their fellow students are looking on and discussing their chances, the varying successes and failures of each gladiator, until the great day for one of them, when, amid the generous applause of the whole university, he is declared possessor of the coveted place and prize. The other students have not been idle. There are inferior positions to be gained ; little circles and eddies of contention and strenuous rivalry there are all down through the class to the poor, solitary men who have no strength to challenge any of their fellows, but are all the time fighting off that wolf at the door, failure. It is splendid but it is not war, said an amazed spectator of the charge at Balaclava. And in such situations, familiar to students everywhere, there is an irresistible attraction for a young man of spirit, but wholesomer conditions may readily occur to every mind.

However, it is not easy to get rid of the conviction that examinations and, necessarily, therefore, this feverish competition, are as indispensable as the professors and students themselves to university life. The question remain-

ing is, how to relieve the strain, for the average student at any rate. We believe that the Scottish Universities are wise in having written examinations at short intervals; in most of the classes four such examinations during the session. At Glasgow there is a written examination in Natural Philosophy, taught by Lord Kelvin, every Monday morning on the work of the preceding week. Greater frequency limits the amount of material to be crammed and stowed away into the student's mind; it gives him several opportunities of recovering himself, and it greatly diminishes that sickening dread which "one chance only" inspires. Whatever will minimize this haunting fear of failure, which many students experience causelessly, without encouraging the dawdler in his dawdling (and the frequent examination is this man's peculiar bugbear), is to be welcomed and encouraged. "Teaching by lecture," says Goldsmith, "will make men scholars if they think proper; but instructing by examination will make them so, often against their inclination." Paradoxical as it seems, it would appear to be in the interest of the student that by frequently undergoing it, he familiarizes himself with this ordeal. Besides, he in this way receives his knowledge in smaller and more convenient portions; to which proportions it is not assumed that there will be a very general undergraduate assent.

I would mention also the oral examination, which must be regarded as another eminently desirable if eminently uneasy stimulus to daily work. The publicity and the uncertainty of this experience combine to wean most students from thoughts of crowding their preparation into the two or three days immediately preceding the examination day. This trial, coming at the caprice of a professor, is an instrument of genuine test. And it would be difficult to over-estimate the trepidation of a sensitive student at the thought of being asked curtly and ignominiously to "Sit down, sir!" in presence of two or three hundred of his fellow-students. His aversion to being the object of so succinct an address is increased by the double disgrace that is fixed upon him. Every student who comes with the day's task unprepared is expected to lay upon the professor's desk at the beginning of the lecture hour a note to that effect, so that if he manifestly knows nothing about the lesson, and his card, for which the professor rummages, is not found among the little pile of excuses on the desk, it is not merely his diligence that is smirched but his honor as well. This last, it is a pleasure to state, is a point of care on the part of the average undergrad., so that what Emerson said of Oxford and Cambridge is not untrue of Scotch University society, "One cannot be in better company than on the books of one of the larger colleges." We have been present when a class received in absolute stillness, verging almost upon awe, the rebuke administered to one of its members for an offence which, outside the walls of a university, would be looked upon as venial; and on another occasion his classmates unanimously and heartily hissed a man for publicly taking unjust advantage of a professor's indulgent nature. There was more in that unusual reproof than is advised in a prudent little publication recently issued for the benefit of Freshmen at the University of Cambridge. The title of this brochure is "The Fresher's Don't," and, with the rest, contains this bit of sage counsel, "Don't show contempt for Deans. They are a well-meaning class and very powerful."

The curriculum in a Scotch University may appear to be inelastic and unaccommodating. A course is laid down with hardly any freedom of choice on the student's part. The authorities guarantee the absence of vexatious difficulties, such as the clashing of class-hours and examination days, and require of him only that he be industrious and faithful. The course is, consequently, not so attractive because not so varied as many might desire, but what it

loses in this respect it gains in simplicity. Prof Huxley in his address at the opening of the Johns Hopkins University discussed among other things, "Whether a curriculum should be prescribed, or whether a student should be allowed to range at will among the subjects which are open to him," and decided in favor of the former. "The important points to bear in mind," he said, "are that there should not be too many subjects in the curriculum, and that the aim should be the attainment of thorough and sound knowledge of each;" and similarly in speaking of a medical education, "Depend upon it there is only one way of really ennobling any calling, and that is to make those who pursue it, real masters of their craft, men who can truly do that which they profess to be able to do, and which they are credited with being able to do by the public." Oliver Goldsmith, referring to travel, says: "Wandering is not the way to grow wise," a sentiment sure to be indorsed in some rare lucid blinks by the student who is hot-foot after that will-o-the-wisp, "the contemporaneous pursuit of a multiplicity of diverse studies." John Stirling's studies were of "the most discursive, wide-flowing; not steadily advancing along beaten roads towards college honors, but pulsing out with impetuous irregularity. . . . And perhaps it was not the express set of arrangements in this or any extant university that could essentially forward him, but only the implied and silent ones; less in the prescribed course of study that seems to tend nowhither than—if you will consider it—in the generous (not ungenerous) rebellion against the said prescribed course." This Carlylese is true literally—if John Stirling and such men are not of that great company of men who are largely in excess of the John Stirlings everywhere, and are therefore entitled to consideration. And it is still possible that even Stirling would now be owing his reputation rather to himself than to a friend's generous tribute had he been of a less wide-flowing and discursive disposition. He furnishes one of those rueful instances of splendid ability frittered away by indirection. And where the talent is not of this transcendent kind, there is all the greater need for compression. It is bad enough when Bardo lies overthrown in his learning like a cavalier in heavy armor. He may be altogether a brave scholar, maugre his predicament and inutility. His actual worth is nothing; what he might do is not calculable. It is worse when he is no wiser than the moths which

"have eaten more
Authentic learning than would really furnish
A hundred country pedants,"

but worst plight of all is when a man is compelled to maunder like a child lost in a thoroughfare and ready to boo-hoo for the sheer strangeness and inconsequence of his condition. His capacity is not consulted. Relatively he is asked to cram into his finite, God's infinitude. Let him be master of some one thing, however poor and small, rather than be in servitude to many subjects. When a student is "capped" Artium Magister he receives the degree much as he would purchase goods at long credit, and conscious that neither the goods nor the degree belongs to him until he has wiped out the arrears, he honestly falls to work. Mastery is the keyword. "I can't help remembering," says Holmes, "that the world's great men have not commonly been great scholars, nor its great scholars great men. The Hebrew patriarchs had *small* libraries, I think, if any, yet they represent to our imaginations a very complete idea of manhood; and, I think, if we could ask Abraham to dine with us men of letters next Saturday, we should feel honored by his company."

In a great variety of subjects there will be some uncongenial and most will be but lightly learned. Only what is deeply pondered and slowly assimilated remains. The rest is largely loss. The ordinary student is capable of much within his power. He is capable of *nothing* be-

yond that. Beyond that, every demand made upon him, if he tries to respond, only injures him. Friswell says: "Unhappily prize boys and prize poems and prize everything except ploughs and sewing-machines turn out badly here. . . . Cramming produces a boy who blows early like a flower forced in a hot-house, and which afterwards puts forward neither flower nor fruit. . . . The purport of education is only to fit a man to learn, not to fill him with learning. We do not take all our meals at breakfast time."

A SCOTCH GRADUATE.

THE NEW LEARNING.

Mr. Biggar, in last week's VARSITY, extended to us so genial an invitation to join him in discussing the evils of our University system, that one undergraduate, at least, has found it impossible to resist him—especially since he has hospitably provided us with arguments of so toothsome a fallibility. My readers may remember that Mr. Biggar found two very obvious defects in our Alma Mater, one arising from the curriculum, the other from the presence of a body of students, who are the innocent cause of class socials and of a mysterious "bad effect" upon the men. We presume, from the becoming deference with which Mr. Biggar has approached this latter origin of evil, that he has reference to the lady undergraduates of this institution. It is doubtless owing to the large sufferance of the afflicted gentlemen that attention has not been called to this "effect" heretofore. Or it may be that some (not so badly affected as others) find it possible to attend to their studies as well as their class socials, and are willing to forgive the unfortunate young women who annoy them with this unwholesome influence, on the supposition that the offence may be mutual. The disturbing element, of course, must be careful. We are only enduring their presence among us on condition that they behave themselves, and if they manifest so eager a desire for our company that we cannot attend to our books, we shall be compelled either to exclude them altogether from the delights of our society or to leave the place ourselves.

The second great fault of our system is the length of the present curriculum. We have with us a large number of students who came to this University to acquire culture—and the degree of Bachelor of Arts. The two are inseparable. No one would think of seeking an education outside of the curriculum, because no one can gain his degree outside of the curriculum. To possess a degree: that is the aim of all education, the crown of all culture. Now, the students who are seeking culture may be in the minority—but has the minority no rights? What do the authorities know about drawing up a curriculum, at any rate? Have not some of us been attending lectures here for *four years*? Can we not teach everybody everything? Gentlemen, the curriculum must be shortened. If the powers refuse us, let us organize an agitation, mob the janitor, and shake the walls of this abode of ignorance to the last pane of glass in its foundations!

The third sin in Mr. Biggar's catechism is a sin of omission. The professors, we are told, do not show that interest in their pupils which the many admirable qualities of these young gentlemen should win for them. Now, we admit that young men—for Mr. Biggar has altogether ignored the young women in this section of his discourse—are by reason of their inexperience, their ignorance, and their general immaturity, peculiarly interesting to those who have long since ripened out of such green acidity; yet one can imagine that after a professor has seen some half-dozen classes enter the lecture-room with the howl and stamp of freshmen, pass through their several removes, and attain at last to the sober arrogance of a B.A., he may begin to grow slightly *blasé* and indifferent to their innate attractiveness, and feel not a little weariness, even,

to find the seventh invasion of the great uncultured quite as rough and as juvenile as was the first. Professors are, after all, no more than human; and if they content themselves with teaching us how to be scholars, and leave us to learn our "manners" elsewhere, pray are we to upbraid them? Are the professors, then, to teach us etiquette? We are told to turn our admiring eyes upon the English tutorial system. *There* is perfection itself. Yet the historian Gibbon, who had some experience thereof, cannot find a good word for it. He wished Oxford to adopt a method similar to that which we have at Toronto. Of course, it may be argued that the abuses of which Gibbon complained a century ago have been all corrected since then. We do not doubt it—remembering the ease with which our own grievances were lately set right by means of this almighty "organized agitation."

It is not necessary to consider in detail the remainder of Mr. Biggar's bill of grievances. Let us grant that the undergraduates of Toronto are "overflowing with high ideals and aspirations," which an unfortunate conjunction of circumstances prevents them from inflicting upon one another; that the situation of the University has its disadvantages; that there are some trifling difficulties in the way of its removal; that the defects in our Residence prevent the growth of a too narrow college spirit, and are not favorable to the formation of Greek Letter Societies and other cliques of mutual aid and admiration. These misfortunes are not unmixed evils, and moreover we undergraduates do not need to be taught more than once that we cannot change the direction of the ocean currents by raising any tea-cup tempest of "organized agitation" around the lecture-rooms of this University.

H. J. O'HIGGINS.

THE CONVERSAT.

There was a *Conversazione* on Friday last. The invitations announced (although they were not intended to), that it would be a "*Conversazione and Ball*" They were quite accurate—they would have been even more so if they had said "*Ball (and Conversazione)*." Socially it was a "howling success." Almost all of the people that one doesn't know, but has heard of, were there, and as they were good enough to wear very gorgeous gowns, they were interesting to contemplate. Furthermore, there were some of the prettiest girls there I ever saw. I met two of them—I think they were twins—and I don't know now which was which; and as I bored them both almost to death, it really doesn't matter.

Individually the work of the *Conversat* Committee was excellent. The decorations were handsome, and for once not too lavish, the refreshments were by far the most satisfactory I have ever found at such a function, the music was first-class, the programmes were original and tasty—even the Heating and Lighting Committee performed its arduous labors in a due and proper manner, and was greatly blessed, more because it had discreetly left undone (in Room 9, etc.) that which it ought not to have done, than because it had done what it ought to have done in the rest of the building. There are many that love darkness rather than light, but who shall say it is because their ways are evil? Some of the people who were within ten feet of the platform said that the concert was good, and everybody said that Miss Miller looked charming—further than that I could get no information. The exhibits were exceedingly interesting, but failed to interest, which may sound curious, but is true. I looked into Room 3 once and saw an S.P.S. man, all by himself, gazing ecstatically at a stereopticon view of the Coliseum, and murmuring "The next slide, ladies and gentlemen, will be —." Then I slid. I wanted to see the chicken embryos, in order to be

able to tell my landlady just how long the breakfast eggs had been incubated, but somehow I failed to connect.

Everybody came to the Conversat to dance, at all costs, and pretty nearly everybody danced. The floor of both halls was crowded—every now and then a solid mass of humanity (I think that is the correct phrase) would come together at one end and wobble helplessly around until the storm centre shifted to another latitude. Both the music and the floor were splendid, and the temptation was simply irresistible, but there were far too many people dancing to allow of much real enjoyment. It must have been a magnificent lesson to many in the suppression of profanity.

There was not a detail of Friday night's arrangements that anyone could reasonably censure (many people said the ticket limit should have been lower, but the Society cannot afford to lose money); but the general scheme, in the opinion of most of the guests, was not an advantageous one. A dance is perhaps the ideal of social enjoyment, but it is not a Conversat, and it will not mix with a Conversat. The Society's annual function has now become a dance, exactly like the T.A.C. dances and the Grenadiers' Ball, except that skeletons and chicken embryos are provided for the amusement of the dowagers whose dancing days are over. It is rather foolish for the Society to spend money on a concert, and the scientific clubs to spend time on exhibits, which receive as little attention as these do now. Let us either give a dance, pure and simple, cut down our expenses and rigidly restrict the sale of tickets, or else let us have an At Home, at which there will be nothing to occupy the minds of the guests to the exclusion of every other interest during the whole evening. We have several dances now every year, in the Gymnasium, which is better adapted for the purpose. Let us have a Conversat.

VARSAITY VS. T. A. C.

Varsity showed in this match the combination which they had unfortunately lost the night that they met Stratford. Time and time again throughout the first half, the blue and white line swung down the rink, passing freely and unselfishly. The team was greatly strengthened by the changing of Morrison for Parry, who showed all the necessary qualifications of a first class player. Barr's weight, too, on the soft ice was a great strength, and as long as he lasted the T. A. C. defence had to keep wide awake. Shepard and Snell both played with the greatest effect, Shepard's erratic rushes completely foiling the T. A. C. defence. Snell, too, was always in his place, and played a remarkably unselfish game. The defence in the second half had their hands full and did their work well.

The teams were as follows: Varsity—Goal, Waldie; Point, Scott; Cover, Parry; Forwards, Shepard, Barr, Snell, J. Parry. T. A. C.—Goal, McMurrich; Point, Windeyer; Cover, Brumell; Forwards, Johnson, McArthur, Miller, Carruthers.

The game began with hockey of the most brilliant description, and after erratic sallies by both forwards, Shepard tallied two minutes from the blow of the whistle. Score, 1—0. The puck was hardly faced when Miller and Johnson broke away with the rubber, and successfully eluded Waldie. Score, 1—1. Varsity now went one better, and in less than fifteen seconds Parry shot, the puck coming out in front to Shepard, who slammed it through. Score, 2—1. The next game, though quite as fast, was longer in duration, and though the "blue and white," and also the "garnet and black" forwards made gallant efforts to distinguish themselves, the honor fell to Windeyer, who scored on a roof-scraping lift. Score, 2—2. "Biddy" was responsible for the next, as he stopped Windeyer's lift, and immediately scored. Score, 3—2.

Two minutes later Parry scored on Shepard's pass. Score, 4—2. Carruthers now tied his sling to the puck, and after passing Parry and Scott, passed to Miller, who scored 4—3. Shepard and Windeyer now came into collision, but Parry seized the puck, handed it to Barr, who did the trick. Score, 5—3. Two minutes later Snell scored, 6—3. The players were beginning to be rather tired, and the games were longer. McArthur and Johnson were guilty of deceiving Waldie, and the score rose to 6—4. For the rest of the half the puck wandered up and down, all parties missing chances to score, but at last Shepard found the puck in the midst of a "scrim" and hurled it past McMurrich. 7—4.

The second half began with a lot of clean, fast hockey, interspersed, however, with some rough play and lots of crosschecking. Johnson at last achieved the coveted honor. Score, 7—5. Parry, the cover-point, hurt his knee, and the players took a short rest. To and fro the puck travelled, sometimes determinedly, sometimes aimlessly, and it was not for a quarter of an hour that any one could call the puck his own long enough to score; but at last Parry tallied with a shot from the boards. 8—5. Windeyer saw a golden opportunity, and starting from before his goal he carried the disk past the Varsity defence and scored 8—6. The T. A. C. were working hard to even up, and after a series of determined rushes they notched another, 8—7. In the minute that was left they were unsuccessful in scoring. So ended a hard-fought and brilliant game. E. P. Brown showed himself to be a model referee, and both teams were thankful for his fairness.

INTER COLLEGE HOCKEY LEAGUE.

It has been decided to hold a series of inter-year and inter-college games. Representatives of colleges and years met on Saturday and drew up a schedule. Owing to the lateness of the season the games will have to start this week, in fact some are played now. Owing to the fact that the first team might be in the finals, the dates for the second, third and final round were not fixed. The schedule is as follows:

- A—'97 Varsity vs. '98 Varsity—Tuesday, 2 p.m., at Varsity rink.
- B—'99 Varsity vs. '00 Varsity—Tuesday, at 4 p.m., at Victoria College rink.
- C—McMaster vs. St. Michaels—Wednesday, 2 p.m., at Victoria College rink.
- D—Knox vs. S.P.S.—Wednesday, at 4 p.m., at Victoria College rink.
- E—Dentals vs. Meds.—Wednesday, at 2 p.m., at Varsity rink.
- F—Victoria College—Bye.

SECOND ROUND.

- A and B—G.
- C and D—H.
- E and F—I.

THIRD ROUND.

- G and H—K.
- I—Bye

FINAL.

- K vs. I.

BASEBALL.

The annual meeting of the University of Toronto Baseball Club was held Thursday afternoon in the Students' Union. The attendance was very large and enthusiastic, and everything points to a successful season. This year's material is better than ever before and the teams are confident of giving a good account of themselves. Two teams will be put on the diamond, an unprecedented step in Varsity baseball circles. A number

of home games have been arranged as well as two extended tours to the American colleges and through Ontario. The services of Marr Phillips, who has had over twenty years' experience and is consequently an old veteran at the game, have been secured at great expense, as coach for the coming season. The list of officers will be published next week.

S. P. S. NOTES.

The Engineering Society held its regular meeting on the 10th inst. This meeting was expected to have been of special interest on account of the promised appearance of a prominent architect, Mr. W. B. Mundie, of Chicago, who was to have read a paper entitled "The High Building Problem." A number of architects of the city were present. And great was the disappointment when it was learned that, through pressure of business, Mr. Mundie would not be able to appear in person. However, he sent his paper to the Corresponding Secretary, by whom it was read.

The paper was prepared in such a way as to be of interest to both undergraduate and experienced architect. It dealt with the subject in a general way. High buildings, or commercial structures, as the writer calls them, are necessitated by the great value of land in our large American cities. The architect has very little scope for artistic effect. He is limited by the cost and the wishes of the owner, who is building in order to get the most for his money, and not with a desire to add to the beauty of the city. But several good suggestions were given, showing how architectural effect could be arrived at without adding to the cost, and still maintaining the convenience and economy of the "factory-like" structure. From an engineering standpoint, also, the modern, high building is a difficult problem. It consists principally of a "cage," or skeleton of steel, built so as to support itself, all the masonry outside, and all the interior construction work. The question of foundations is perhaps of greatest importance; the weight resting upon every part of which must be calculated, and the footings designed accordingly, in order to prevent uneven settling, and hence straining and cracking the structure. The cage must be well braced all over to withstand the effects of wind pressure. The above are some of the points considered in the paper, of which we regret that space will not permit a full synopsis. A hearty vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Mundie by the Society.

Following this paper was another entitled "Specifications for Concrete Sidewalks," by Mr. A. J. McPherson, Town Engineer of Gal., Ont. A letter accompanied the specifications, and consisted of general advice concerning such to the inexperienced graduate who was setting out on this line of work. As Mr. McPherson was not able to appear in person, both were read by the Corresponding Secretary. Discussion followed the reading of the papers, and some interesting facts were mentioned by those experienced in high building architecture and in concrete road work.

The prospecting class has gone, and comparative quiet once more reigns in the north end of the school. The following lines were written by one of the specials in mining, and are very appropriate at this point, although, for the sake of the departed heroes, they should have been brought to light at an earlier date:

In the spring of '97, forty men with joy elate,
 Started out to make a fortune for the year of '98.
 Forth they went with little hammers, little magnets, little
 files,
 Little lunches in their pockets, hoping soon for little
 piles,

Off they started, bravely singing, "We are from the S.P.S."
 "Now we're miners, forty niners, knowing nothing;
 more or less."

"Soon we're going to make our fortunes, in a month or so
 at most,"

Thus these happy miners (?) started, trusting in the
 foolish boast.

But alas their golden visions vanished like a cloud of
 smoke

As first one and then another of their little hammers
 broke

Then they found their files were useless, and their magnets
 wouldn't pull.

So these broken-hearted miners (?) straightway went
 and each got full.

Up and down, and back and forward, round and round
 these miners (?) went

Hunting gold by sun and moonlight, till their ready
 cash was spent.

Still the gold was not forthcoming, so these weary miner
 men

Gave up hunting, gave up hoping, turned their faces
 home again.

And, while tramping home, they chanted "'All things
 come to those who wait,'

"But I wish I had 'eight dollars' for my fare home
 on a freight."

THE CHARGE OF THE HUNDRED PROSPECTORS.

Half a league, half a league, half a league onward,
 Into the woolly west marched the one hundred,
 Jeered at with laugh and yell,
 Bravely they walked and well,
 Into the land of gold, alias the Mouth of Hell,
 Tramped the one hundred.

Miners to right of them, miners to left of them,
 Miners behind them busted and blundered,
 No time to reason why,
 No time to make reply,
 Gold, gold, their only cry,
 Noble one hundred.

Shovel and pan in hand, boldly they made a stand,
 Picking up gold bricks, while all the world wondered.
 Gold, did I say, alas!
 Not even decent brass,
 Iron pyrites dismayed the one hundred.

Calespar and plagioclase, fiespar and orthoclase,
 Hornblende and quartzite, confused the one hundred.
 Massive and schistose rocks,
 Crystals and rhombic blocks,
 Till they felt certain that
 Some one had blundered.

When can their memory fade, oh! the mistakes they made.
 Loudly and deeply they cursed, and they wondered.
 Then they turned home again,
 Sadder but wiser men,
 All that was left of them,
 Left of one hundred. PROS SPECTRE.

"O tell me where is fancy bred?"
 She asked, and getting bolder,
 She placed her little darling head
 And chignon on my shoulder.

And I, with no more poetry in
 My soul than in a Shaker's,
 Replied with idiotic grin
 "You'll find it at the baker's."—*Ex*

The Varsity

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STATE AID TO HIGHER EDUCATION.

IN THE Speech from the Throne, delivered during the past week, at the opening of the Legislative Assembly, there was one item of particular interest to University men—the proposal to set aside certain lands in the New Algonquin Park district as an aid to the work which this University has been doing so long and so nobly, under what those in the best position to know consider to be very straitened circumstances. The insertion of this in the programme for the coming session is, it is supposed, the result of the appeal made some weeks ago by our authorities to the Provincial Executive, an appeal, the effect of which was watched with considerable interest, alike by the general body of citizens and those in one way or another connected with this institution. A large section of the newspaper press of the Province, for by no means the first time, addressed itself to a consideration of the question of state aid to the higher learning, for which a university stands. As was perfectly natural, we find some very diverse opinions expressed, but on the whole a fair spirit was manifest. As to the general merits of any of the contentions raised, we do not intend to express an opinion here, for several reasons. In the first place, we do not think that the general question can be adequately treated in the space or with the capability at our disposal. The great trouble with all such matters of discussion is that men are too apt to make a few rash generalizations from which to derive their rules of practice, neglecting to notice the many qualifications which must be made with all the complex conditions to be considered. The subject is one within a large department of political science; and that government which would act without due consideration of the opinions of those who have spent their lifetime over such problems as this would indeed be neglectful of its

trust. Further, we do not think that, even if we were competent, what we would say would be of much value, as our columns are not addressed to those who (at least for the present) would have any great influence in changing the general current of governmental policy in this regard. At any rate, the question as to how far higher education should depend upon the state for support is to a great extent an open one. It is, however, fraught with much importance to the nation and to the individuals who make up that nation, and should, therefore, be considered carefully on all its sides.

But from time to time, and particularly within the last week or so, some have gone further than to criticize the policy of supplementing the ordinary University receipts, by contributions from the Provincial funds. They have seized upon the question of the rightness or wrongness of that policy, to belittle, as a whole, the work which is being done by the higher seats of learning in this country. They have advanced the same, old, time-worn arguments, pointing to the stock of impecunious professional men in our midst, and to the hardy sons of toil removed from a prosperous agricultural life to waste their energies in a soft-handed calling for which they are unfitted. They have, in short, by indicating some of the difficulties in the way of the spread of university education, and by emphasizing some of the evils which arise from it, striven to show its general undesirability. Here we have no open question. No true graduate or undergraduate can allow such attacks to pass unnoticed. There are without doubt numerous difficulties in the way of the wide extension of this higher education. In the present state of the world's development it is quite impossible to make it, in the words of a distinguished educationist (Pres Angell), "free as the winds that blow." It must be admitted that it is mostly incompatible with certain forms of manual labor, without which we cannot at present get along very well. As a result, there is much justice in the contention that the means of gaining a university training should not be made too easy.

But not for one moment let us consider that such hindrances should detract from the general regard for its splendid results in the individual, and through him in the race. We cannot here expatiate upon the great advantages which we, in common with the cosmopolitan brotherhood of university men, enjoy over the rest of our fellows. If that institution, which a man calls Alma Mater, is doing its work properly, if he seizes the rich offering that she makes, no one who has any experience of the college man, and has had the means of comparing him with others, can deny that his life is the more in uniformity with the ideal, to which every life should aspire. He may not become a man of great material wealth, but if his natural powers are such as to make him worthy of a university training, he need never fear, with industry and patience, of earning a livelihood necessary for the realization of what really constitute the highest aims of existence. The truly successful man is not always he of fabulous riches, nor yet he who wields the greatest power in the world of thought or action.

We have been in business JUST FOUR MONTHS in Toronto, and it has come to this:—Ask any student where

We cannot better convince ourselves of the importance of the university man in the national life than by reference to an article by President Thwing in the *North American Review* for November, in which he brings out some statistics. Out of 1 170 clergymen named in the standard work of reference as to notable ministers of religion in the United States, seventy-four per cent. of the Episcopalian, seventy-eight per cent. of the Presbyterian, eighty per cent. of the Congregational, and ninety-seven per cent. of the Unitarian, are graduates. Five out of the commonly accepted six great poets are graduates. The five greatest historians are also university men; of the Presidents there are fifteen, of the Vice-Presidents thirteen. Every Chief Justice has been a graduate except John Marshall, who was a student at the College of William and Mary, when the Revolution interrupted his course. More than two-thirds of the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court and about two-thirds of the present Circuit Court Judges have also been college men. It is when the facts of the matter are thus so directly brought home to us that we realize the importance of university work to a country, and satisfy ourselves, despite the many efforts to disparage it, that our sojourn here is not altogether useless, either to ourselves or to humanity as a whole.

AT THE CONVERSAT.

A TRUE STORY.

I am young yet, but I don't think I am impressionable, that is, not easily impressionable; and if people think I am, I would much rather they wouldn't express their opinions to me as they often do. Well, I am young, but I am somewhat of a "masher." Even I will admit that; so when, in the early part of Friday evening, a pretty girl dressed—how well I remember how she was clad—dressed in white organdie, with a bunch of violets gracefully pendant on her breast, coyly looked at me from underneath her eyelids and gave me the prettiest smile I ever received, I immediately, metaphorically speaking of course, fell at her feet. I hastened around, seeking some one who knew her to introduce me. I waltzed up to grave seniors and strode up to baby-faced freshmen. All in vain—no one knew her! I had discovered an unknown goddess. Meet her I must. How little did I suspect the fluttering emotions I had excited in her breast. I had always maintained, to myself of course, that my eyes were heart-breakers, but I have never before had such proof of their powers. I met her again in the hall. She was alone; so was I. "My eighth and ninth are vacant," were the melodious words that fell on my delighted ear. "Mine were, but they are not now," was my gallant answer. I had always felt ambitious to be considered gallant. We passed on, but her sweet face and gracious manner haunted me ever. The dances passed slowly one after another. At last the seventh was over, and with beating heart, conscious flush of triumph, beaming eyes, head erect, etc., etc., I proceeded to our rendezvous. She was there waiting for me, with her beaming smile. She took my arm. Tremulous quivers—well, never mind about that.

"This room is so crowded, let us sit the dances out," I suggested. "Yes, that would be much nicer," and I noticed her eyes seek my face. (Again the tremulous quiver act was repeated.) So we strolled down stairs along the long corridor on the way to room 9, which, with my usual foresight, I perceived was dark.

"Ain't the decorations nice?" Oh the charming disregard for conventionalities expressed in that one little word "ain't." How much nicer I thought it would be if all of Toronto's society would adopt the style of my "Queen" "Yes." I observed, "the decoration committee worked well." (I was on the D. committee.) Now I knew the proper way to give her the opinion that I was no mere nobody was to show my acquaintance with Toronto society. So I began, "I suppose you were at the Grenadiers' ball last Friday night, weren't you?" "No, I didn't go to that one." "Well, I suppose you were at Sir So-and-So's ball on Jarvis street?" "No, I didn't go to that one either." She *must* have been sick. "How was that, have you not been well?" "O, yes, I have been very well; but I feel so tired after being in the shop——" "What!" I gasped, "in the shop?" Her face turned all of a sudden from being charming to a really most common face. Her beaming smile was beaming no longer. The tremulous quivers had stopped quivering. I turned and fled. She sold me this writing paper at Eaton's the next morning — afternoon, I mean.

Yes, I am young yet.

H.

MODERN LANGUAGE CLUB.

The last German meeting of the term was held on Monday last, in room 4, and was one of the most instructive which the class has held. The committee was fortunate in securing two members of the staff to discuss the difficult subjects before them. Prof. McCurdy read a paper on Ruckert, as Poet and Orientalist, and was followed by Dr. Needler, on Napoleon and the German Poets. The closing number was a German reading by Miss Lapatnikoff. The meeting next Monday will complete the course of study on The Development of the French Drama. The programme is as follows:—1. Alexandre Dumas fils, R. H. Rowland. 2. François Coppée, Miss Mullins. 3. Maeterlinck, J. G. Muir.

BANJO, GUITAR AND MANDOLIN CLUB.

The coming concert of the Banjo, Guitar and Mandolin Club, with the College of Music Ladies' Mandolin and Guitar Club, under the patronage of Sir Casimir and Lady Gzowski, promises to be one of the most popular concerts of the season. It will take place on the 26th of February, in the Pavillion. The Banjo Club, which is a favorite, has some strong new pieces, one of which is a Chinese characteristic piece called Ah Sid, by Baur. The Ladies' Mandolin Club are working hard, and are at present having double rehearsals. One of their numbers will be the very pretty Spanish song La Polona, in which Miss May Dickenson in costume sings the solo. The clubs will be assisted by the very best of local talent, Miss Jessie Alexander, Elocutionist; Miss Francis World, Soprano; Miss Edith J. Miller, Contralto; Mr. Paul Hahn, Cello; Mr. W. S. MacKay, Basso and Mr. G. F. Smedley, Banjo and Mandolin soloist. Mr. Paul Hahn's Cello solo will be one of the best numbers, as the ladies are preparing a very pretty obligato. Exchange tickets may be obtained from any member of the club, and the lowness of the prices should certainly meet the approval of the students. The plan will open at Nordheimer's, Monday, February 22nd, at 10 o'clock.

to be photographed and we are quite willing to stand by the decision.—Frederick Lyonde, Photographer, 101 King St. W.

Y.M.C.A. NOTES.

At the meeting of February 4th Mr. Fred H. Barron, who was Varsity's delegate to the Y. M. C. A. Convention, recently held in Ottawa, made his report to the Association. Among other things he said: The number of delegates from the different universities and colleges was small, but the College Session was of a very interesting character. Mr. Fraser, of Queen's, read a paper on "Method and Means for Association Work in our Colleges." Some of the points emphasized in the discussion which followed, were: (1) All students should heartily co operate in the work of the College Y. M. C. A.; (2) Association men should be thoroughly in sympathy with the different phases of College life, e.g., Literary Society, Football, etc.; (3) As believers in Jesus Christ, our spiritual life should be pure, warm and vigorous, and should occupy first place in our thoughts. Another feature of the Convention was the Bible Readings on the "Holy Spirit in a Believer's Daily Life," by Dr. Scofield, of Northfield, Mass. The Holy Spirit is given for our guidance. He will guide us in every detail of our life, both secular and religious, and He will guide us towards the ideal life in Christ Jesus. No Christian should rest content with anything less than such daily guidance. One delegate also pointed out that each member of the Association, after graduation, should identify himself with the Local Association of the town or city where he may be residing. The training which we get at College should not be spent all on ourselves, but should be used for the benefit of our fellow-men, and one of the places, where we can come face to face with young men and give them the benefit of our training, is in the Young Men's Christian Association. The Y. M. C. A. is one of the most powerful bodies for good in our land. It does not work in opposition to the Christian Church, but is really the young men of the Christian Church, doing special work for young men, and College graduates can be a tower of strength to such organizations.

Our delegate, while attending the Convention, assisted in the morning service of the West Methodist Church, and also gave a five minutes' address at the "Farewell Meeting" on Sunday evening.

A highly interesting address was given last Thursday by Mr. T. S. Cole, Travelling Secretary of the Provincial Y.M.C.A. Mr. Cole gave a very interesting account of the growth of the Association movement in the towns and cities of America. When he entered the work 27 years ago there were only 12 Association buildings in America. Now there are over 300. He told of the days when old Shaftesbury Hall was the Association building in Toronto. Referring to the Railroad Department of the work, Mr.

Cole stated that there are at present 120 railroad Associations, and that \$150,000 a year is given by railway companies. The G.T.R. had just made a grant of \$18,000 to be spent this year on Railroad Association buildings in Canada. The speaker went on to tell of the amazing growth of the movement in the colleges of America, and of the development, within his memory, of the University College Association. There was at present a great need for men of education and ability to become general secretaries. This, the speaker explained, was a very hard field, but a very needy one. Concluding, Mr. Cole emphasized the oneness of Y.M.C.A. work, whether in towns or in colleges, and called on students to help the Associations in their own towns in every possible way during vacations and after graduating.

Rev. Mr. McDiarmid, secretary of the Canadian Baptist Board of Foreign Missions, addressed the Student Volunteer Union on Saturday.

This week Prof. Hume will speak at the Thursday afternoon meeting.

MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETY.

A regular meeting of the Mathematical and Physical Society was held in Room 16 Friday, Feb. 5th, a large number of the members being present.

Mr. Hedley, '00, treated his subject, "Physical Research," in a fashion that elicited the well-deserved applause of the audience. Starting from Archimedes' discoveries in Hydrostatics, he reviewed Galileo's work in Optics, Newton's on Gravity, Fizeau's on Velocity of Sound, and closed with a review of the electrical discoveries of the last two centuries.

Miss M. Northway, '98, gave the third of a series of papers on "Recent Science," contributed by the ladies of the Physical Class, '98, and in her hands the enviable reputation of this class was fully maintained. The principal subjects dealt with were the work of a French astronomer on the action of the different rays of the spectrum on vegetation, an electrical apparatus for opening and closing doors automatically (which chivalrous students would gladly see introduced here), and an application of the phonograph to teaching languages.

Mr. E. T. White, '99, contributed one of the best biographical sketches the Society has listened to this year. "The Life of Cayley" probably furnished better material than usual, but much of the credit must also be given to the writer. Cayley was the greatest of modern pure mathematicians, and at the same time a most modest and unassuming man. His death, which occurred in August, 1895, was lamented by all his contemporaries. COR. SEC.

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A BIT OF LIFE.

"What meaneth life? Why do we live?
'Tis strange we seem to but begin
To serve our God, that is to live
To tear away from clinging sin
When He calls us."

Thus thought the old man on his bed,
His brow deep knit, his teeth tight pressed,
He smiled—"I see it now," he said,
"Who only *learns* to serve is blessed."
And God called him.

THE ROWING CLUB ASSURED.

From the temper of the large and enthusiastic meeting, which was held in the Students' Union on Wednesday last, it looks as if a Varsity Rowing Club would certainly be a thing of the future. Its success is all the more certain on account of the strong support which the scheme is receiving from President Loudon, Prof. Baker, Prof. Hutton and others, and on account of the liberal offer which the Argonaut Club has made to the promoters. Indeed, from all appearances, the prospects for a strong club seem to be particularly bright, and before many years we may expect to see a Varsity eight, which will make as creditable a showing for its Alma Mater as the clubs in other branches of athletics have already done.

Before calling upon President Loudon to take the chair, Mr. D. B. McDonald, chairman of the organization committee appointed at a previous meeting, explained the origin of the movement and the purpose of the present meeting.

President Loudon, in opening the meeting, expressed the great pleasure which it afforded him to preside on such an occasion. To have a rowing club at Varsity, he said, had always been one of his greatest desires, and was an object which he had made spasmodic efforts to attain about fifteen years ago. The attempt, however, proved a failure at that time; but now, with the favorable offer of the Argonaut Club, he hoped to see the University of Toronto Rowing Club date its birth from the jubilee year of Her Majesty's reign.

Prof. Hutton cited a few of the difficulties which would meet the students in forming a club, but thought these could be surmounted, as others had been, without much difficulty.

Prof. Baker, who, by the way, is himself an old oarsman of repute, also added his share of encouragement to the scheme, as well as Dr. Fick, of Victoria, who has had a varied rowing experience in Germany.

The President then asked Mr. Bunting, a graduate of '92, to say a few words on behalf of the Argonaut Club,

and he explained the terms which his club proposed to give. Students are to receive all the privileges of the club for five dollars a year, but he suggested that they form an organization of their own, whose officers could treat with the Argonaut officers as a whole, and not individually as the students had formerly done. He expressed the opinion that inter-year matches, which could be brought off about the third week in June, at the same time as the Argonaut races, would be a good idea to infuse interest into the movement.

Mr. Denison, as an Argonaut officer, promised the Varsity organization a hearty welcome to his club and assured them that every assistance possible would be given.

The kind welcome of the Argonaut Club was thoroughly appreciated by President Loudon, who thanked Mr. Denison most heartily on behalf of the meeting. He then, after some brief reference to his phenomenal career, introduced "Ned" Hanlan.

The great oarsman demonstrated to the meeting the marvellous advantages which were derived from rowing. By being an oarsman he had visited every part of the world where the English language was spoken, and had since the opening of his career won more races than any man ever born. If a club was formed at Varsity he promised that "Hanlan is at your service for any assistance he can give." He expressed faith in Varsity's athletes by saying, "I am ready to stake my life that I can get the material in Varsity to whip any eight-oared crew in the world."

The meeting then formed itself into the University of Toronto Rowing Club and proceeded to draft a constitution. Mr. McDonald had one ready, which was read and adopted clause by clause.

The next business was the election of officers. The list drawn up by the organization committee was satisfactory to the meeting, which elected the following gentlemen:

Hon. President	- - -	President Loudon.
President	- - -	Mr. D. B. McDonald.
Vice-President	- - -	Mr. G. C. Sellery.
Secretary-Treasurer	- - -	Mr. J. G. B. Merrick.

A committee composed of three undergraduates from University College or affiliated colleges is to be chosen by these officers.

Before the meeting broke up, Mr. McDonald asked all those who wished to become active rowers to send in their names at once to Mr. Merrick, in order that arrangements might be made with the Argonaut Club.

The Big Seven, reinforced by Mr. Jack Baird, of Victoria, held their séance last week, at 252 McCaul St., on Thursday, from four to six. Sunday morning, without reinforcement, they attended service at the German church.



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CORRIDOR CULLINGS.

We regret that lack of space causes the exclusion of much valuable material from our columns this week.

The Mathematical and Physical Society hold an open meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 23rd, notices of which will be seen on the bulletin boards.

On Saturday, after the Executive of the Modern Language Club had sat for their photograph, Professor Vander Smisson invited the body to luncheon at Webb's. There a most choice and dainty repast was partaken of, and the officers parted, voting the president a thoroughly jolly good fellow.

'97 Arts students intending to enter the Law Society of Upper Canada should give notice to Herbert Macbeth, sec. of the Law Society, Osgoode Hall,

Toronto, on or before Monday, April 19th. The necessary papers for admission can be had from Mr. Macbeth. Students must pay \$1 with their admission papers and \$50 as soon as admitted. The Law School exams. are as follows: first year, April 26; second and third years, May 4th to 15th.

A meeting on Weismann was held on Tuesday by the Natural Science Association. The subject was treated by G. W. Ross, '99, and F. H. Scott, '97. This Association purpose holding their popular open meeting on the evening of Friday, the 26th. A programme of addresses and music will be presented for the early part of the evening, after which the museum will be open for inspection and promenading.

In our issue of Jan. 20th we published a review of the Cabot Calendar, in which there appeared slight errors

that we desire to correct. It was Miss Mary Agnes Fitzgibbon who assisted in the work of compiling it. Most of the drawings were done by Miss M. Cary McConnell, the remainder by Mrs. Fitzgibbon, while the designing, was done by the Toronto Lithographing Company.

A very interesting meeting of the Political Science Association took place last Thursday, at which a question was discussed which is now of very great importance in county administration. The County Poor-House was made the subject of very able and interesting papers by Messrs Hancock, Bray and Rutherford. This was the meeting which was to have been held on Thursday, February 4th, but which was postponed on account of the unavoidable absence of several of the expected participators, notably of the audience and the officers.

Shorthand Class

One of the members of the Class lately concluded is taking copious notes of lectures, beautifully written, and one of the lady pupils of the same Class writes to a pupil in the present one that she has attained a speed of 120 words a minute.

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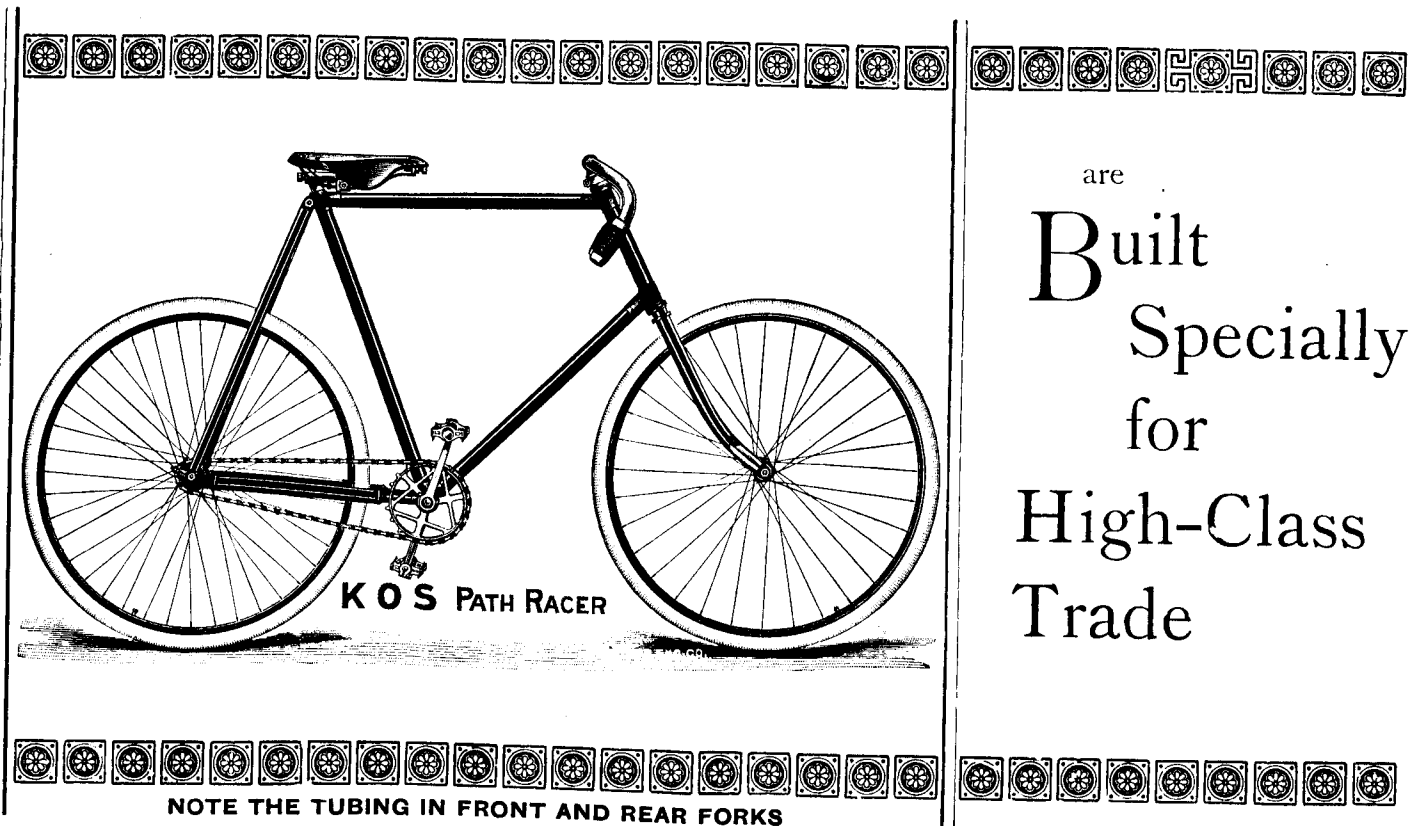
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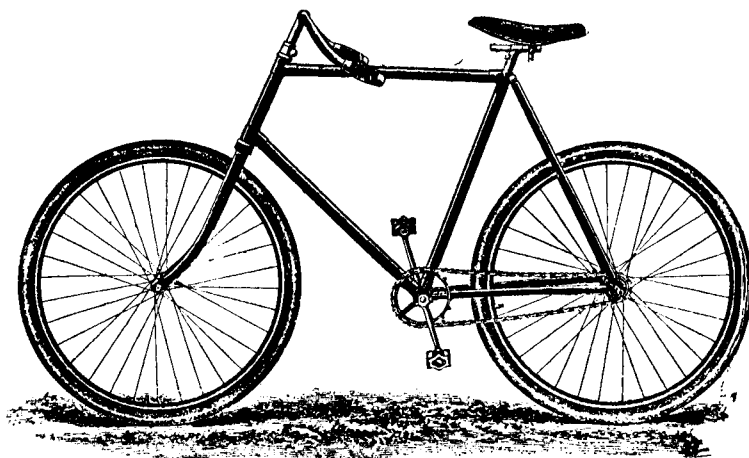
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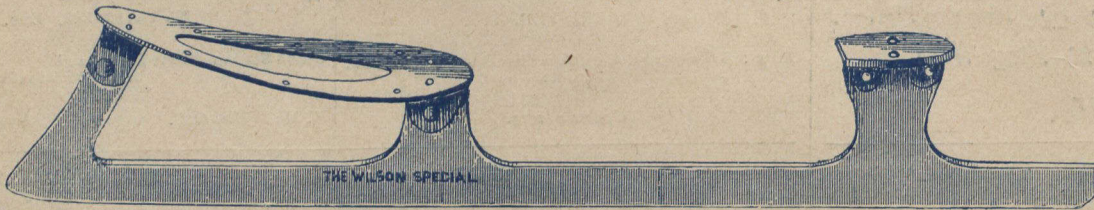
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