



UNIVERSITY
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JANUARY 31, 1885

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THE 'VARSITY.

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Editorial Notes.

At Johns Hopkins there are 275 students. Of these, 125 are known as "graduate students," viz: those who have completed their regular college course elsewhere, and are devoting several years to studying for higher degrees. The result of this, as a writer in the *Evening Post* remarks, is to produce an atmosphere of mingled geniality and hard work that is very attractive. The favorite studies are the different branches of the sciences, philology, history, political and economic science.

In a recent address to the Edinburgh Association for University Education of Women, Sir Herbert Oakeley told women that interpretation rather than composition should be their aim, as nothing remarkable in the way of creative art has ever yet emanated from "lady composers." One often hears statements and advice quite as absurd in relation to the ordinary university work of women who desire something higher than a common school education, and more solid than the course in a ladies' college.

At a recent meeting of the Modern Language Association of Columbia College, New York, a resolution to the effect that French and German should be regarded as an equivalent for Greek at the entrance examination, was voted down. We have gone far ahead even of this resolution in the University of Toronto, for by a recent statute of the Senate, French and German have been made an equivalent for Greek all the way through the course, as well as at the entrance examination. This arrangement seems to be generally regarded as a sensible one *per se*, and as being in accord with the general tendency of university progress.

American campaign humour displays itself in a singular tendency to coin names and phrases which have no apparent etymological connection with the objects to which they are applied. In the great campaign of 1876 there appears the terms "bulldoze" and "roorback"; in that which closed a few weeks ago the term "mugwump" was the ordinary designation of the Independent Republicans who refused to support Blaine. To American election humour we owe such veteran words as "platform" and

"plank," "bolt" and "scratch," "slate" and "ticket." The "mugwump" in the Blaine-Cleveland contest was a Republican who bolted the party nomination, scratched the party ticket, and broke the party slate.

A "Modern French Method" has been published by Appleton, the author of which, M. Guillard, adopts the physiological method of teaching pronunciation. This plan is by no means a new one, as the best teachers of English now make use of it in imparting to their pupils a knowledge of correct pronunciation. Defects of utterance, such as the lisp, may be effectually cured in this way in the case of children, and even of adults, who cannot learn by mere imitation. The essence of the system consists in directing the pupil how to place the vocal organs while emitting the sound required of him, and this can now be so effectively done that children whose dumbness is due to deafness and not to physiological defects can be taught to speak fluently and correctly.

Prof. David S. Jordan has been appointed to the Presidency of the Indiana State University, in the place of Rev. Dr. Lemuel Moss, whose indiscretions rendered his removal necessary. Prof. Jordan occupied the chair of Natural Sciences in the institution over which he has been called to preside. Though but 33 years of age he has won for himself a name as an authority in zoology, botany, and geology. His special researches have, however, been in the department of ichthyology. Prof. Jordan is the author of several scientific works, the most important of which is his "Fishes of the United States." Though a specialist in the natural sciences, Prof. Jordan possesses a wide literary culture, being familiar with many modern languages, including Chinese.

In the Washington University a novel but exceedingly interesting and successful method is pursued in the study of the English language and literature. The professor rarely delivers a set lecture on the subject, but occupies a position similar to that of the "Autocrat" or "Professor" in Holmes' charming "Breakfast Table" series. Easy discussions are carried on between the professor and the members of the class and among the members themselves, the professor simply retaining the right of exercising the functions of leader and critic. In studying an author or a period, the professor assigns to each student some special feature of the subject, upon which he is required to prepare a short essay. A number of these essays are read the next day in the class, and then the professor calls on any member to criticise the writer's statements. He himself, following the method of Socrates, seeks rather to educate than to instruct his students. The system is reported to arouse great enthusiasm in the students, and to produce such a development and cultivation of literary taste as are not attained by the usual methods.

The lengths to which political prejudice and partizan feeling are carried in the present day is exemplified in the case of the President of Kansas University. Some of the politicians of that state are attacking President Canfield, alleging that he is teaching Free Trade. Efforts are being made to force the Legislature to withhold its appropriations until he is removed. "On the other hand it is declared," says the *New York Independent*, "that his instructions are at all times free from partizan bias, that he is a man of broad views, thorough scholarship, and extensive information, and that his utterances on political economy are in ac-

cord with the teachings of the leading colleges of the country, and with the advanced intelligence of the age." This is probably the correct statement of the case. It will be noticed that the attack is made by "politicians," not "statesmen." Any deviation from party times and party traditions is always visited with a heavy hand. It is to be hoped that there are some men in the Kansas Legislature who have a soul above party, and who will teach the "politicians of" that State a lesson in liberality.

It is a pleasant duty to notice from time to time in our columns the progress made by other Canadian Universities. The one that is making just now the most rapid strides is Dalhousie College, Halifax. Mr. George Munro, the well-known New York publisher, is a Nova Scotian, and he has wisely resolved to erect a monument to himself in his lifetime by adding largely to the endowment of Dalhousie, and enabling her to increase her staff and otherwise enlarge her sphere of usefulness. Within the past few years three well-known graduates of London University—all Canadian Gilchrist scholars—have been engaged as professors—Messrs. McGregor, Schurman, and Alexander. These are all comparatively young men, but in all probability this will prove advantageous to the institution rather than otherwise. With the departments of Physical Science, Mental Science, and English so well provided for, good work in each for a long time may fairly be expected. Another recent improvement in Dalhousie is the institution of a Law School in connection with the University, the lectures in which are delivered by members of the Halifax Bar for a very moderate remuneration. It was Harvard Law School, more than any other faculty, which made that University famous in its earlier history, and gave her the proud position she holds to-day in the estimation of the people of the United States; and if Dalhousie should happen to find in her Law School another Story, a similar result would follow. If a Law School can be successfully carried on in connection with Dalhousie University in a comparatively small city like Halifax, one is tempted to inquire whether a similar institution could not be made an adjunct of our own University in this great city of lawyers, law students, and law courts. The example set by our Blenose friends is a good one to follow.

M.A., LL.D.

University degrees are assumed, both by those who possess them and by the world at large, to have some meaning and some value. If they have none, or less than they seem to guarantee, the fault lies entirely with those in whose power the bestowal of them lies. And that that power has been too often wielded in ignorance, or injustice, the history of universities in every civilized country in the world plainly shows. For if academic honors are granted without due regard to, and consideration of, their object and their significance, they are certain to be at the same time misleading and false. The granting of such honors is a question in itself difficult, indeed, of satisfactory solution; it is more difficult, and more dangerous as well, when its solution is sought from data and principles that have no legitimate place in its consideration.

It is unnecessary at this day to enlarge upon the circumstances and objects of the foundation of universities in Europe: upon their original purity, and the deserved confidence that was reposed in them by the public: or the changes that have so grown upon them, taking different directions in different countries, that the character of the original is scarcely recognized in the institutions flourishing in modern times under the same name. It would be absurd, too, to close one's eyes to the advances that have been made in the systems of modern universities, in all of their most important elements. But one cannot but see that there are, at present, in many universities of the highest standing, features whose continuance shows disregard of what have always been looked upon as the reasons for the establishment and maintenance of the university as an educational institution. Among these is the retention of degrees such as above alluded to, which mean little or nothing to those who possess them, and deceive others. That such degrees have been retained, and still exist, the very complaints of educationists, in Germany, England, and the United States go to show. Perhaps we are not altogether without grounds for similar complaints in Canada.

We have in our own University certain degrees which we call Higher Degrees. How many who obtain these consider upon what grounds they are deserving of that name, or what value they have in themselves? And who of our Masters of Arts or Doctors of Law can tell us what distinction his degree affords, which a Bachelor of Arts or of Law ought not to enjoy? A satisfactory answer would not be easy. The very term

"higher degree" is a misnomer in our system, and a misleading one, and the reason is not difficult to discover.

That reason, we take it, is to be found in a persistent adherence to the vicious system of written examinations. The use of such examinations is doubtless to a certain extent necessary; but the wisest policy aims at their curtailment, not their multiplication. And the higher we get in the development of education, the more irrational does such multiplication become. The granting of the degree of M.A. by such a system seems to us absurd; certainly the *reductio ad absurdum* of the system is seen in its application to the degree of LL.D. When we consider that the degree of M.A. can be obtained by the writing of an indifferent thesis and the payment of a fee, we cease to wonder at the determination of so many of our graduates to remain satisfied with their standing as Bachelors, which shows at any rate the result of three or four years' work, more or less thorough. The systems of Oxford and Cambridge are more rational. They accept the fee and dispense with the thesis.

It was doubtless the recognition of the comparative worthlessness of our degree of M.A., that led to the advocacy last year, in our Senate, of a new degree of Ph.D., to represent post-graduate work actually done. This we hope still to see carried out. The establishment of such a degree would have a most beneficial effect. While affording a genuine incentive to work, it would place within reach of the graduate an honor deserving to be called such. That our M.A., as at present constituted, does this, few will, we imagine, seriously maintain. All university men will, we believe, sympathize with any endeavor to establish a higher degree which will have an actual value and meaning of its own.

It is pertinent here to refer to another aspect of this question, and to ask whether it is sufficiently considered that the injury arising from a wrong system of academic honors is not confined to university men themselves, but that the public, who must accept such titles as having some significance, are apt to be misled, and that seriously. The remark of Archbishop Whately on this point is as appropriate to-day as it was when made in 1852. "If," he says, "any Oxford man were asked whether the degree of M.A. and those in law and divinity, do not convey, at least to some of our countrymen, some notion of merit or proficiency more or less of some kind, and whether, therefore, a university so conferring these degrees as to create or keep up a false impression, is not guilty of a kind of fraud on the public, I do not know what he could answer." May we not be to some extent participating in such a fraud on the public, in flaunting before them titles whose pretensions are indeed far from genuine?

That our Senate has awakened to a recognition of the false and anomalous position of our LL.D. degree is shown by the introduction of a statute, in accordance with the power given by the Local Legislature last year, making the degree henceforth a purely honorary one. This is as it should be. So long as this, our highest degree, was granted upon a written examination, as it has been in the past, it could not be expected either that those who obtained it should be the most fitted to wear it with dignity, or that those whom their University would most desire to honor should be in a position to do the work necessary to obtain it. It is now in the power of the Senate to honor those, and those only, who are worthy of it. To this, there is only necessary, on the part of the Senate, care, discretion, and strict impartiality. That these will be invariably shown is the genuine and sincere wish of most, if not all, of our graduates; that it will be so, they also confidently expect. They are glad to see one of our "higher degrees" placed at last on a rational basis, and they look forward to its consistent bestowal in such a way that a real honor will be done, in all cases, not only to those who may be its recipients, but also to the University by which it is conferred.

THE GREAT PYRAMID OF GIZEH.

Egypt is a wonderful country. In the early history and civilization of the Adamic races, it has played an important part. It is a very paradise of monumental lore in which antiquarians delight to roam. Its early and magnificent civilization is fully in accord with the history and teachings of the Old Testament. The science of inference and interpretation of the ruins and remains of Egypt, lend a generous testimony to Holy Writ.

The doctrine of Evolution, as taught by many, finds a bold and well-qualified antagonist in Egypt. For this doctrine wishes to prove that man is a development, that he has come to what he now is slowly up through the centuries. Egypt, however, says to the contrary. Outside of Bible history, where do we see and find man the furthest from the present? We answer, in Egypt. Again, at that remote period, what does he look like?—we are obliged to answer that he looks very much like ourselves—that is, if we judge him by what he could do, as we judge like ourselves. The civilization he created and maintained for centuries was no mean affair—as the gigantic and numerous ruins broadcast

through the land go to show. At that remote point evolution wants man to be a pigmy, but facts reveal him rather as a giant. Egypt now might be cited in proof of evolution, but Egypt then, most certainly cannot.

The Egyptians very wisely wrote their history in a solid and enduring form, in numerous tombs, temples, and pyramids. What a remarkable structure the great pyramid of Gizeh is. It is the very embodiment of science—astronomical, geometrical, geographical, prophetic, and historical. The coincidences in these departments of science are too many to be accounted accidental, as Prof. Proctor would have us believe. The evidences of design and forethought stand out in every feature of this vast structure.

Think of a few facts. 1st. Its location is the centre of the land surface of the whole earth—hence the best zero point on earth for meridional and latitudinal calculations. 2nd. Its form and size symbolizing the earth in weight and motion. 3rd. Its shape or inclination from base to apex the same as from the pole to the equator. To express this the building slopes in ten feet for every nine in height. Being in this spot and being so constructed, the sun can and does shine upon the whole of this building twice a year without a shadow. 4th. Its orientation is the most perfect of any building on earth. Perfect orientation men in past ages and countries have tried to express in temples, churches, monuments, and observatories, yet none have succeeded so well as the pyramid builders.

The famous Uranibourg Observatory, built by aid of the European governments under the skillful supervision of the learned Tycho Brahe, was found to be five minutes of a degree askew in its orientation when finished.

The government of the United States a few years ago determined to have a point of perfect orientation; for this purpose they fixed upon Mount Agamenticus, in the State of Maine. They, at a great cost, and much time and labor, finished their work, and found after all that they were in error the four hundredth part of a second, although they tried to solve the problem by three distinct processes, namely, difference of zenith distance, absolute zenith distance, and by transit in prime vertical.

Might we not very reasonably ask Prof. Proctor how it came that these ancient architects, so early in the world's history and progress, did build so skilfully? How were they able four thousand years ago to find the poles and determine the latitude and longitude so precisely? Though the Pyramid is a little askew of the centre the builder knew where the centre was, else why lay bare and make smooth the lime-stone table rock on which they built close to its northern edge? Why press so closely to the brink of the hill on the north side, when there was plenty of room on the south side? Of course, if they had gone any further north they would have been in the desert sands, and without foundation. They did, however, build a wall in the sands on the north side to prevent the edge of the rock and foundation of the Pyramid from yielding.

These builders knew the Pole Star and pole point and pressed as close to the point as they durst. They could build, however, as accurately as if under the very pole point, for when the Pole Star was crossing, or on the meridian below the pole, and the Pleiades near the Equator, crossing above the pole, then a plumb line dropped from above would pass equally through both the pole points and the Pole Star as accurately as if the Pole Star were precisely in the pole points of the sky.

5th. How came these builders to know the exact curvature of the earth, a fact which we have only determined a few years ago? The beveled face of the rock shows us they knew: the curvature of said level being a fraction of eight inches to the mile. Like a good fitting saddle on a horse, so did they fit this vast building on the earth. Prof. Proctor thinks they found the level for building by enclosing water. Surely they would have something to do when we remember that the first tier of the outside foundation would enclose 13 acres. It seems too bad that the Professor should forget that water would not find its level, but would be obedient to the curvature of the earth in such a quantity.

6th. It is the highest, largest, and one of the oldest buildings on earth, rising to the height of 486 feet and a fraction, which height, if multiplied by ten nine times, gives the distance of the earth from the sun, making it about 91,640,000 miles. Any way, in our scientific calculations of late we seem to be more and more approximating to this Pyramidal standard.

7th. As it stood when complete it was the circle squared, for the height is the radius of a circle whose circumference, if divided into four equal parts, each would equal one of the surface sides of the base. Closer in approximation than Walli's Indivisibles, or Newton's Fluxions, or Leibnitz's Calculus.

8th. The door of entrance on the north face was 49 feet from the base and 300 inches east of the centre, so as at once to express the tilt of the earth's axis from the plane of its orbit and by its height from the ground, express the Precession of the Equinoxes.

Well might the prophet Isaiah (ch. xix : 19, 20) say : "In that day

shall there be an altar to the Lord in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar at the border thereof to the Lord. And it shall be for a sign and for a witness unto the Lord of Hosts in the land of Egypt." Here we see the altar and pillar are one and the same—and a scientific fact is expressed when the prophet says it shall be in the midst and on the border. The position of the pyramid is such, being at the sector point of Upper and Lower Egypt, thus being on the border of both and yet in their midst.

Professor Proctor does not like to admit anything divine about this building, and he labours hard with poor arguments to sustain himself. He would have us believe it was built for an observatory, forgetting that when complete there was no known way into it. As it stood in its beauty it was faced with large blocks of marble of a cream color, the joints so fine that some of the old historians argued it was one whole block of rock that had been cut to that shape. These stones were 12 feet long, 8 broad and 5 deep. It surely was a queer observatory built up to a point no one could stand on, and enclosed that no one could enter. Even if some one had found the real door way, which was carefully hid, and entered, they could not have found the ascending passage, for it was carefully closed up with a large portcullis, and hence they could not have entered the grand gallery which Mr. Proctor thinks was the observing chamber.

Professor Piazzi Smyth, Astronomer-Royal for Scotland, whom Professor Proctor likes to have a fling at, is a thousand times more reliable in pyramidology than he is. Prof. Piazzi Smyth has done a great and glorious work in connection with the Pyramid, and he does not disdain to acknowledge a divine quantity in it. "The Pyramids and Temples of Gizeh," is the title of a very fine book by W. M. Flinders Petrie, of London, England. In this new and elaborate work Prof. Smyth is very largely confirmed. Happily for us, God has not left Himself without witnesses. Long before God made bare His arm through Moses, and wrought miracles to convince Pharaoh and the Egyptians, He had wrought one miracle in this vast and unique stone pile. A miracle which would cover the ages; not to be seen by a few only, or last for a day, but to be seen by the millions and last for centuries.

In this Pyramid we have a valuable inheritance. Its finish, its beauty, its magnitude, provoke our criticism, and yet it must, when known, command our admiration. This watchman on the walls of time; this sentinel in charge of the secrets and treasures of the sires of long ago; this Prophet in the wilderness in rugged garb, proclaiming the will of Heaven, as then made known and now manifest; this Daniel who can interpret for us the future; this mile-stone of the ages, we cannot help but revere. By it we are enabled to adjust our chronological dates, rectify history in some of its most important points, and judge more correctly of the attainments of our ancestors; nay, more and better, to form a truer estimate of ourselves and discern the finger of God in the manipulations of men, and an overruling Providence in the rise and fall of nations.

These signs and wonders confirm God's word, for they prove inspiration a fact; inspiration of a kind and in the very manner demanded by the unbelieving scientists. Here is a building superhuman, and of course in part supernatural, like the Bible. In this building the human and the Divine blend.

If any deny this it remains with them to account for it, and show how a people so far back in the world's history could be so wise and learned; how they could embody so much of the sciences. One thing is certain, if the Divine had nothing to do with this building, then we are left to the conclusion that man was much superior to what the Darwinian theory admits. If void of the Divine, then the development theory is destroyed. If we admit the Divine, then it follows that inspiration is a fact.

The building is there, and it was there in the day of Egypt's oldest historians. It has been counted as one of the seven wonders of the world.

It did not embody the ideas of the Egyptians in science, astronomy, meteorology or religion. As their historians allow, it was built by foreigners whom they hated.

Nothing idolatrous was carved on it, within or without. It was a witness pure and clean. The Egyptians proclaimed and believed the earth to be square—this building proclaimed the earth round. The builders beveled the face of the rock in a ratio of eight inches to the mile—the very quantity that science to-day admits to be the curvature of the earth—and accepts in surveying. It was their knowledge of this act that kept the building sound, without the cracking of a joint, through centuries, though so high. The Egyptians did not use the sacred Amma, or cubit, which is about twenty-five of our inches. They used a profane cubit—as Sir Isaac Newton shows.

This sacred cubit was a well and easily established proportion of the earth's diameter; the very standard now used by the English government in surveying.

The stones of the Pyramid were twelve feet long, eight feet broad,

and five feet deep, making a total of twenty-five. The building itself was a five-faced figure. The Egyptians hated five. No wonder that Moses harnessed the Israelites in fives as they left Egypt, or that he should divide his Book into five parts.

No wonder that the queen's chamber should be on the twenty-fifth course of Masonry, and the King's chamber on the fiftieth course, which is the year of jubilee, or deliverance. This year, as indicated in the Pyramid, is the year 1935.

The Egyptians calculated from the moon in their chronology. But this building takes its calculations from the sun circle. The Egyptian year was 354 days, with an intercalary month of thirty-three days added every three years.

The year embodied in the Pyramid was 365 days, five hours, forty-eight minutes, forty-seven and seven-tenths seconds. If a person took a rod of a cubit length, and measured one of the base sides of the Pyramid, he would find this twenty-five inch measure to be contained, as often as there are days in the year, with the same fraction in inches as the hours, minutes and seconds.

Is it impious to ask how these builders knew the solar year so completely? They knew the sun's circle of 448 years, which completes a circle of time without any excess or deficiency. This they ran into weights and measures as God's religion does.

The Pyramid, having four sides, would divide this circle into four parts, which makes 112 pounds or a hundredweight, or if multiplied by five, the faces of the Pyramid, 448 would give 2,240, or a ton.

We close this article with a quotation from Jer. 32 : 18, 19 : "The Great, the Mighty God, the Lord of Hosts is His name. Great in counsel, and mighty in works; for thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men; to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruits of his doings. Which hast set signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, even unto this day."

JOSEPH WILD.

MUSICAL NOTES.

It is very generally admitted that the musical performance at our annual *Conversazione* is the *raison d'être* of the whole entertainment. It has been our pleasing duty in times past to chronicle the successes of our College Glee Club on these gala nights of the Literary Society. Last year we were debarred from so doing, by the unfortunate lack of merit in the Club's performance. But from what we have seen and heard this year, we feel confident in predicting for those who are fortunate enough in securing seats in Convocation Hall on the evening of the 13th of February, a rare treat which will, we are quite sure, more than compensate them for the trouble and inconvenience they may be put to in the effort to obtain seats. The committee of the Glee Club has shown most commendable enterprise this year, and the club has worked together with such vim and heartiness that their success at the coming *Conversazione* is already placed beyond a peradventure.

Early in the season the committee, acting on the advice of their able and energetic conductor, Mr. F. H. Torrington, decided to commence the preparation of a cantata, with a view to its production at the *Conversazione*. The work selected was the *Frithjof* of Herr Max Bruch. This beautiful work was produced at the Buffalo *Saengerfest* of 1884, by a chorus of over 1,000 picked male voices, selected from the numerous German singing societies of the United States. Its popularity was immediately established. It speaks volumes for the enterprise and courage of our College Glee Club, that they should have desired for their University the honour of presenting this work for the first time to a Canadian audience. It is also another indication of Mr. Torrington's laudable desire to place Toronto at the head of the musical cities of the Dominion.

A brief review of the *Frithjof* may prove of service to those who purpose hearing it at the *Conversazione*. The plot of the Cantata—if, indeed, it can be said to have a plot—is taken from scenes related in the *Frithjof-Saga* of Esaias Tegner. The synopsis is briefly as follows: The first scene opens with the safe return of Frithjof to his native land after the commission of some royal behest, "although the King, with demon spell, invoked the horrid goblin brood and unloosed the wings of the tempest." As he returns he thinks much of Ingeborg, his loved one, and wonders whether, after his long absence, she still is true to him. Scene II. opens with the bridal procession of Ingeborg, who has been forced by her brother to marry his most deadly foe, King Ring, a rival to Frithjof. Ingeborg, still loyal to Frithjof, laments her fate, but in vain. The next scene is descriptive of the enraged Frithjof's revenge. He sets fire to the Temple, and curses the king, who not only deprives him of his promised bride, but has desecrated his father's tomb, and destroyed the home of his childhood. Frithjof recites the causes of his anger, and unfolds the scheme for revenge in a splendid and dramatic solo, sung in conjunction with a chorus of the Priests of the Temple.

Scene IV. sees Frithjof a prisoner, and on his way into exile. In this scene there occurs a Solo Quartette, which is, in our estimation, the gem of the work. It is scored for two tenors and two basses in the most characteristic style of the composer. It is sure to be encored. Frithjof then resigns himself to his untimely banishment. In the fifth scene Ingeborg, in a solo of peculiar beauty, laments the banishment of her lover, and wishes for death. The last scene, is descriptive of the voyage of Frithjof into exile, and recounts his sayings and doings while bound thither. Frithjof's martial solo in this scene is a most stirring one, and shows the dauntless bravery of the man. The work closes with a splendid chorus, echoing the words which Frithjof has just sung in his solo.

Such, in short, is the plot of the Cantata, which abounds in many beautiful solos, choruses, and orchestral numbers. Of the last, the Bridal March in Scene II. is the most noteworthy.

We shall now briefly refer to the resources of the Glee Club—if we may so speak—for the production of this work.

First and foremost of these is Mr. Torrington, to whose inimitable hand is entrusted the details of the performance, and the *baton*. Mr. Torrington will direct an orchestra of 30 selected pieces. It is expected that the Glee Club will number nearly 75 voices on the occasion of the concert. About 14 of these are graduates, who will materially assist the Club, and whose hearty co-operation is most commendable. Many familiar faces will appear on the platform, among whom will be Messrs. Cane, Blake, Tibb, Haddow, Frost, C. Gordon, G. Gordon, Robertson, Brown, and many more who during their undergraduate days were prominent in the Glee Club.

We heartily congratulate the Committee upon their wisdom and good fortune in securing the services of Mr. A. E. Stoddard, of New York, to take the part of Frithjof. Mr. Stoddard is a magnificent singer, as frequenters of the Philharmonic Society's concerts know, and is a great favorite with Toronto audiences. Miss Hardmann, of Hamilton, has been selected to take the *role* of Ingeborg, and will do full justice to her part. The singers in the solo quartette in Scene IV. will be: W. A. Frost, 1st tenor; C. Gordon, 2d tenor; N. Kent, 1st bass; J. F. Brown, 2d bass. In choosing these gentlemen the Committee has shown excellent judgment. So much for the first part of the programme—the Cantata—which will take about 1 hour and 15 minutes to perform.

In the second part, Mr. Stoddard and Miss Hardman will each give a solo. The Orchestra will give two selections—one a Concerto with the piano. An Octett, by members of the Glee Club, will also be given. Miss Cummings, of Hamilton, a "fair girl undergraduate" of our University, will play a piano solo, and Mr. C. E. Saunders, a student of University College and a flautist of considerable ability, will give a solo. Perhaps the most interesting number in the second part will be the recitation of "Hiawatha's Wooing" by Miss F. H. Churchill. Competent critics have said that Miss Churchill's rendering of this piece is an unrivalled elocutionary effort, and as Miss Churchill is so well and favorably known in Toronto no more need be said.

From the above it will be manifest that the musical sub-committee of the *Conversazione* Committee has spent its unusually liberal grant in a most judicious and entirely satisfactory manner. Much praise is due, however, to the Glee Club, for initiating the ideas which have been so generously carried out by the *Conversazione* Committee.

Practises of the chorus and orchestra together were begun last Thursday evening in Philharmonic Hall, and will be continued regularly each week. The practices of the Club are on Friday afternoons as usual. The great progress which the Club has made in the last few weeks leaves no doubt but that its performance at the *Conversazione* of 1885 will be a memorable event in the musical circles of Toronto, and especially in the annals of the long and honorable career of our College Glee Club.

HAUTBOY.

BLACK AND WHITE.

(From the German.)

The first time I saw you, my darling,
You glisten'd in fleckless white;
Transfigur'd, you mov'd in a glory,
Your face and your raiment beam'd light.

And one time I saw you, my darling,
When I came to bid you good-bye;
In regal black of velvet and lace,
You look'd a queen. A king was I.

The last time I saw you, my darling,
O'er you in horror I bow'd:
Black, black was the cloth on your coffin,
And white, snow-white was your shroud.

BURSCHE.

THE MAN IN THE BLACK COAT.

He was not a mysterious personage at all. About him was none of the awe that shrouds black dominoes, black masks, black gondolas, black art. No delicious thrill is felt in his name as in that of gliding moon-lighted Women in White. He was not at all like that other man in black whose pungent remarks and cross-grained benevolence so charmed the citizen of the world. He had not even the slight disguise of an incognito. He was only an Irish carter that I had often to do business with in the office. In person he was stumpy, red-faced, and red-haired, but remarkable for a certain apologetic politeness that never failed. Civility was not common in the office, but Dennis was different from all the other men. And—I saw him last Sunday on his way to church, with a book in his hand, and the black coat whereof I speak on his back.

At first the shock of surprise at seeing him clothed otherwise than in the ragged, worn vesture of every day made me think myself mistaken. But the red, rugged face, the fiery hair, the short, toil-stiffened frame could belong to none but my friend. As to the coat itself, though new and of good material, it was the most marvellously ill-fitting covering it was ever my fortune to behold. It would have given Poole a nightmare, but it was worn with such an air of decent becoming pride. Why should one's eyes fill up and an involuntary "Poor fellow!" escape my lips? What can there be in the sight of an Irish carter in hideous broad-cloth to cry over?

Perhaps it was because the wearer was so utterly, so sublimely unconscious of incongruity or ugliness. Or was that coat the proof of a long pathetic struggle towards respectability, towards betterment, towards a position in life? It was the owner's protest against stagnation. The token of a laudable ambition to rise in the world. We honor the manfulness of it, but, Dennis! did you ever think of the utter futility of the struggle after all? Will it ever satisfy you? Or was it futile? Perhaps the end of Dennis' existence was reached when he achieved that black coat, that outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace. Poor fellow! poor fellow!

BOHEMIEN.

FROM LAKE TO SEA.

(Concluded.)

The unexpected drain on the expeditionary purse occasioned by the delay at Trois Rivières rendered it impossible for the party to indulge in the luxury of berths on the steamer, and so repose was sought on the sofas in the cabin. A persevering waiter spent the remainder of the night in removing our feet from these articles of furniture, and as this misdirected zeal seriously interfered with sleep, we were glad to arrive at Quebec at an early hour, and make for the St. Louis Hotel and breakfast. The marvellous faith in human nature here exhibited by us deserves to be noticed, for in the depleted condition of the exchequer there was no hope of paying for our entertainment. However, the meal was none the less enjoyed, and if the waiters gauged our means from the confident way in which supplies were disposed of, they must surely have taken us for (very much) disguised millionaires. The unfortunate man who was to pay for our entertainment had now to be sought out, and he filled the exhausted treasury in a way which does credit to the citizens of Quebec.

About ten o'clock we launched the canoes again. The wind was now blowing in squalls from the north-west, but the weather seemed to be clearing. The water was calm enough along the wharves and in the shelter of Cape Diamond, but across the mouth of the River St. Charles, which comes in below the city, it looked very angry. The tide bore us down rapidly, and when it was too late to turn back we found that a very nasty stretch had to be passed. The squalls were so violent at times that they blew the waves into the canoes and rendered progress exceedingly difficult. By heading the canoes to the waves and making a dash when a lull came, we were able to advance slowly, but the three miles across the river must have taken us an hour and a half to make, and when Beauport flats were reached the canoes were pretty full of water, and four pairs of arms were aching soundly. An hour or so walking knee-deep in water, dragging the canoes, and a short paddle brought us to the Falls of Montmorenci, and the Chaplain and Cabin-boy, who had never seen them before, were glad of this opportunity of paying them a visit. They returned completely delighted with the magnificent sight, though the former officer was overheard muttering something about the cascades on the Ballyswilly river in the county Kildare.

Towards evening a few miles were paddled under shelter of the land, and camp was made only fifteen miles from Quebec. A soggy meadow, under a sky promising rain, with no recommendation but the nearness of a woodpile, was performance selected. But a sorry night would have been passed but for a most brilliant idea which occurred simultaneously to the Cook and Chaplain. The canoes were propped close together on their sides and inclined slightly inwards; over them was thrown the tent, held up in the centre by an im-promptu ridge-pole. A few stones and logs around the sides fixed everything securely, and during this and the two following nights, though it blew a gale and poured a steady deluge of rain, the canoeists kept as dry as a Convocation speech, and slept as peacefully as if they had been in their little cots at home. It was naturally the Cook's sad lot to stay out in the rain and get tea ready, and gladly would he at length pass in the sizzling frying-pan and crawl out of the wind and storm into that quiet shelter twelve feet long

four feet wide and eighteen inches high, redeemed from the turmoil without. No tent could have held for five minutes in such heavy wind, and we recommend to all canoeists a similar arrangement in bad weather. A small square of oil-cloth will of course answer the purpose of a tent.

Next morning the outlook was as hopeless as ever, and it was only by exercising the greatest care that we succeeded in making any progress at all. We stopped for a short time at the little village of St. Anne de Beaupre, and saw a great number of pilgrims arrive per steamer to visit the famous shrine at which it is reported many wonderful cures have been effected. Notwithstanding the positive declaration of the captain of one of the steamers that our canoes could not live in such a sea as we were sure to meet on this side of Cap Tourmente, we decided to start, and out in the river found all the muscle and skill we possessed called into requisition. We camped close beside the giant bulk of Cap Tourmente, and made the same canoe tent on a little stretch of sand scarcely above tide mark. Though still some fifty miles above green salt water, the element here was decidedly brackish and quite undrinkable.

The foragers were sent off as usual for provisions, and brought back such charming accounts of the hospitable family who supplied them, that the Commissary and Cook were fain to pay an evening call. They were kindly received, and spent a pleasant time chatting with the master of the establishment. The family was an extraordinary mixture of nationalities—the father Scotch, the mother Irish, and the children unable to speak a word of any language but French. Though father and mother had not emigrated until the age of twenty-five they had forgotten their native tongue to such an extent that they were unable to maintain a conversation in it. It is hardly credible that a full-grown intelligent man should thus entirely forget his mother tongue, but it is certainly the fact. The good man had many stories to tell us of the dangers of the river near the Cape, and went through a long and painful catalogue of drownings which had occurred on this dangerous coast within a few miles of his own house. From him we gathered the unsatisfactory information that for fifteen miles there were only three places where it was possible to land, and that the lightest breeze against the tide would speedily raise a sea perilous to canoes. Finally he adjured us on no account to start unless the morning proved perfectly calm, and we left him, not much comforted certainly, and filled with a proper dread for the mighty Cape towering beside us and its iron-bound coast.

The Cook was awake at the first faint promise of day, and saw the river stretching away peacefully enough, but under a threatening and windy sky. In five minutes the canoes were loaded and in the water, and breakfastless and sleepy, the *voyageurs* were plying paddles with determination. The tide ran strongly against us at first, but soon changed, and the last stern forbidding-looking granite point was rounded by six a.m. A short halt for breakfast, and we were away again on the strong ebb, which with the calm water tempted us to strike right across the deep indentation of Baie St. Paul. All went well until we were in the middle of the Bay, and two miles from land; then a black streak topped with white appeared down the river, and before there Driven rather than paddling on shore, we were heartily glad to find ourselves was time to make shelter, the wind came up again with a heavy squall. there at all, albeit we had only reached a sand-bank knee-deep in water. Two miles of very damp walking brought us to the east side of the Bay. It seemed now that we must rest satisfied with having made thirty miles by midday, for the river plainly did not mean to give us another chance. As the afternoon wore on, however, the awful realities of starvation began to stare us in the face, and it being generally conceded that drowning is a pleasanter and easier death than dying from lack of food, the crews again embark. The wind blows as fresh as ever, a veritable Gulf *Nord-Est*, but we were favored by the circumstance that towards the close of the ebb, for some reason or another, the sea does not run heavily near the shore. A few miles are made somewhat perilously, but no habitation on shore gives us hope of supper. Just as it is decided that it is not safe to round the next point and that the square inch of bacon and the half-bottle of coffee essence (the contents of the larder) must stand as a sort of algebraic symbol for our evening meal, a small knot of *habitants* is discerned on shore. The canoes are beached on the swell, luckily without capsizing, and we address the Frenchmen. It appears that they are having a species of picnic on the beach. A stray cow has floated ashore, and the fender is now engaged in boiling down his *jetsam*. His prey is so exceedingly high that we at once pass to windward of it, and the spokesman now tells us with charming *naïveté* that a moment before they were looking out expecting to see us drowned, whether with the ultimate intention of boiling us down also does not appear. It turns out that they had brought their provisions for the day from their dwellings some miles distant, but they cheerfully give us what is left, the heel of a loaf of black bread and a small piece of pork. This the Cook speedily serves up in *entrees* skilfully contrived to abate the sourness of the bread and conceal the strength of the pork.

Another night of storm and rain is passed most comfortably in our snug shelter, and again at the earliest dawn we find the river looking comparatively calm, though sullen and overclouded. However, the next five or six miles once made, winds may blow and storms may rage, for we then shall be only a morning's walk from the end of our journey. We did not embark five minutes too soon, for just as we reached the wharf at Les Eboulements the storm falls on us with such force that even the few remaining strokes are made with difficulty. From the wharf we can see that outside of the shelter of Baie St. Paul and Isle aux Coudres the whole surface of the St. Lawrence is whitened by the furious North-East gale, and unwilling to await better weather we are forced to abandon all hope of continuing our journey by water; so tying everything in the canoes, we leave them to be picked up by the steamer which calls here occasionally, and then look about to see what some hospitable *habitant* can do for us in the way of breakfast. Milk, eggs, pork, and black bread are soon forthcoming in profusion, and, if the bread was too sour and the *pork* too strong for Upper

Canadian stomachs, one could always fall back on the product of the gentle hen and timid cow.

We have a tramp before us, up hill and down dale, of twenty-two miles, and the first abrupt ascent of a thousand feet seems like a Mont Blanc to legs that have been cramped in canoes for a fortnight. When the height of land is at length gained, we are rewarded, by a magnificent and extended view of the river. A stretch of a hundred miles lies before us; sixty miles down the river Isle aux Lievres and the Cacouna shore are hazily visible, and forty in the other direction the island of Orleans and the small islands at its foot shut in the horizon. The big angry white-caps we left below now seem like insignificant ripples breaking in play, but the great ocean-going ships tossing and rolling in the channel, and the line of foam on the opposite coast fifteen miles away show us what must be the angry tumult of the water below. Up among the hills the wind is so strong that sometimes we can hardly make way against it, and when our road leads us to the sea-shore once more, the seas are piling high upon the rocks, and sending up sheets of spray, thirty or forty feet into the air, which the gale blows far inland.

Pretty pictures had the canoeists drawn, and painted in all the glowing colors at their command, of the triumphal entry into port. The hour was to be synchronous with the arrival of the steamer, the wharf was to be alive with fair rosy-cheeked maidens, who would discern the canoes afar off and wave a frantic welcome with every available article of apparel. The sun was to shed its kindest beams on the bronzed and blue-shirted heroes reposing in easy attitudes in their trim and tidy crafts, which, side by side, borne by snowy canvas wings, were to fly through the blue laughing wavelets to the music of cheers and shouts of greeting. Thus they had imagined it, and thus they had arranged every picturesque detail. But the demands of truth are imperative, and the chronicler must sacrifice this romantic scene to the fact, which was in a few words, that four ragged, hungry and—dirty tramps, wet and welcomeless, finished their journey in the most prosaic way, and were uncommonly glad to get their dinner!

If any kind reader has followed us thus far,—loving us, perchance, for the dangers we have passed, he may possibly forgive us for further inflicting a few figures and statistics.

The total distance travelled was four hundred and seventy miles. It was made as follows: Under paddle, two hundred and ninety; under sail, seventy; by steamer, ninety; walking, twenty-two. On the ten and a half working-days the average speed was a little more than thirty-five miles, and the canoeists are confident that forty miles a day can be kept up in fair weather. They found that a rate of a little over four miles an hour can be maintained under paddle for a whole day when muscles become a trifle hardened, and that a canoe can sail comfortably five miles an hour—a speed greater than this makes steering difficult. The prevailing wind was South-West, or directly down the river, and at this season of the year light breezes from that quarter can be counted on as a rule; though this narrative has amply demonstrated that there are striking exceptions.

In concluding, and summing up the advantages and disadvantages of our trip, we would throw nearly everything into the former scale. Though the river has no striking novelties in the way of scenery, and does not present the infinite diversity and change of a smaller stream, yet its majestic size and resistless force continually astonish and awe, and to an observing eye it contains in itself the elements of variety;—ever changing, under morning light, noonday sun, evenings glow;—under storm and shine;—in lake, rapid and swift silent stream. For him who likes to look on his fellow-creatures there is no lack of interest. Indeed the gradual but noticeable change in race, religion and customs as one passes from Upper to Lower Canada is a most curious and entertaining study.

The dangers to be faced are few and far between, and indeed would only be called such by one with his bump of caution well developed. They are the Rapids, Lakes St. Francis, St. Louis and St. Peter, and the river below the island of Orleans. At any of these points it might be necessary to wait some days for fair weather as strong winds speedily raise a very heavy sea for canoes.

The expenses of the trip simply resolve themselves into the amount of "grub" that four men can consume, and may be estimated at twenty-five cents a day *per caput*. It is of course presumed that no paddlers, following in our steps, will ever so depart from the lofty conception of their journey as to sleep between sheets, or partake of the costly refreshments which an effete civilization is wont to suck through a straw.

Lastly, and the Cook wishes due importance and prominence given to this statement, there is no difficulty in everywhere procuring the best of milk, butter, eggs and bread. He who is accustomed to make his voyages on salt pork and flour, will at once recognize the force and beauty of this.

And so brother canoeman, if you follow in our steps, you have our best wishes for as merry a trip, and we give you a hearty—*Bon voyage*.

COOK.
COMMISSARY.
CHAPLAIN.
CABIN-BOY.

University News.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

The literary programme of last night's meeting was opened with readings by Messrs. Irving & Cronyn. Their selections were both from Dickens, that of the former from *The Pickwick Papers*, that of the latter from "Tale of Two Cities."

The debate of the evening, on the question: "Resolved, that the franchise should be extended to women property holders," was an open one, which is equivalent to saying that with one or two exceptions very little thought or preparation was shown. We cannot help expressing the opinion that open debates, especially when the subject inclines to the trivial, are not successful.

For the affirmative Mr. J. McD. Duncan spoke as leader in the absence of Mr. C. A. Webster, with his usual force and fluency.

He was supported by Mr. R. A. Patterson. In his first appearance before the Society this gentleman made a very favorable impression. He spoke with fluency and force of argument. Other speakers on this side were Messrs. Marshall, Farrish and Chamberlain.

Mr. R. A. Thompson opened the negative in a somewhat humorous speech, and one which showed a mathematical reverence for facts to the entire exclusion of anything approaching sentiment.

Mr. G. H. Robinson was the first volunteer in defence of the apparent weak cause of the negative. He was followed by Messrs. D. G. McMurphy and White.

The President left the decision to the audience, and the decision was given for the affirmative.

The arguments used pro and con. in the debate may be briefly summarized as follows:—Government, the affirmative held, should be of the people and for the people. It should express the rational popular will, and accordingly no section of the community should be excluded from the franchise. Again, women pay taxes for the Government and defence of the country; they show the same interest in and affection for the country as men. Such sentimental objections as that to give women the franchise would unfit them for home life, that it would lead to domestic infelicity; that they are not, as a class, intellectually capable of exercising the franchise, were characterized by the upholders of the extension of the franchise in the direction indicated as absurd in the extreme. Lastly, that women were always found on the side of morality and right.

The negative had "to contend against a species of popular sentiment inspired by a fatuous galantry." Further it was argued that the extension of the franchise to women included with it the right of this class to hold office in every capacity. Women would not refine politics; on the contrary, they would lose by its influence the refinement they possessed. That the great majority of women were not desirous of the power to vote; that the cudgels were taken up on their behalf by a class of women unworthy of the name, whom Goldwin Smith aptly termed "almost a third sex," a class for which the negative had no respect.

Y. M. C. A.

Moss Hall was filled by about seventy men at the prayer meeting on Thursday. Mr. C. C. Owen was leader. The passage of Scripture for the day was 2nd Titus, ii. 14, "Who gave Himself for us that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." We summarise the idea of the various speakers.

A gift is valued the more when it has cost the giver a great deal, and is unmerited by the recipients. Christ gave Himself to those who deserved no good thing at His hands. This wonderful gift is freely given, never to be withdrawn. No bargain is made for the services of the recipients, in exchange for it. It is bestowed not on those only who live decently good lives, but upon men as sinners against the Majesty of Heaven. This gift brings with it the sure hope of eternal happiness. The receiving of this gift carries the moral obligation to serve the giver of it. Christ saves those who receive Him from the penalties, power and presence of sin. The offer of salvation is variously made in the Bible. The Spirit says "Come" as if beckoning men to the God waiting to receive them. Again He says "Look" we think of the wounded Israelites being saved by a look at the brazen serpent. Once more the commandment is "Believe." But the us to receive Christ as a gift. The very fact of this gift having been offered divides all men into two classes—those who have received the gift—and those who have rejected it. Those who have received are daily being freed from the power and will ultimately be freed from the very presence of sin. Those who have rejected it must face fairly the consequences of such rejection in banishment from the presence and favor of God. Those who reject the gift by that very deed condemn themselves. Those who have Christ in them should seek to exemplify His life in theirs. Let it be remarked that men must take this gift on God's terms, and not on any conditions they may choose. As Haman however unwilling must wash in the despised Jordan or go unhealed, so must we be cleansed in the fountain opened by God. In accepting this priceless gift, we receive power to become the sons of God. Higher than any human ideal, is that which is set for realization to those born into the Christian life, even the character of God Himself.

as revealed in His Son Jesus Christ. The condition of the maintenance of the Eternal life given by Christ is simply actively in accordance with the laws of that life, just as physical life increases by the due discharge of functions, so is it with the spiritual life.

A marked feature of the meeting was the excellent singing. Gentlemen who wish to aid in the service of song, are asked to meet for practice at 4.45 on Thursdays in Moss Hall.

THE FORUM.

The University Forum met last Saturday night in Wolseley hall, corner of Gerrard and Yonge streets. About 20 members were present, and the smallness of the attendance was no doubt due to the insufficiency of the notice given. The speech from the throne was read by the Speaker, Mr. F. B. Hodgins.

The Premier submitted the list of his Cabinet, which is composed of the following:—Messrs. Crawford, Hunter, White, Johnston, Aikins, Waldron, Hodges, Holden and McGowan.

The Premier, Mr. T. B. P. Stewart, moved its adoption, and in doing so said that the National Policy had failed to do all that had been claimed for it. The Canadian Pacific railway had been managed in a way which was injurious to the country. Our present mode of making commercial treaties was unsatisfactory. The Boundary award was a victory against Sir John. We should have an Elective Senate. His speech was, in short, an able and practical explanation of the questions of the day from a Grit standpoint. The seconder was Mr. Waldron, who made a very good maiden speech.

Mr. Ferguson, with vigour and fluency, attacked the sentiments embodied in the speech. He gave statistics as to the success of the N. P. since its adoption in 1878. The present depression was felt less by Canada than by England, United States, France, or Germany. Six thousand people in Birmingham alone, in free trade England, were out of employment. The speaker contended that the Conservative railway policy had been a marked success. The British constitution as adopted in Canada gave more real liberty, security, and peace to the subject than did any other constitution in the world. He opposed the democratic spirit, which was covertly seeking to overthrow that constitution. There are no practical grievances which can be relieved only by a radical change in our constitution such as the Reform leader advocate. He closed with a defence and eulogy of Sir John Macdonald, who had been attacked by the Reform leader.

The interest which was taken in the meeting was evinced by the frequent bursts of applause which interrupted the rival leaders. Other members continued the debate as long as the lateness of the hour permitted.

Mr. J. W. Garvin's speech regarding the Boundary award won him much applause.

The debate was adjourned till Saturday next, the 31st, when it is hoped that every member will be present at 7.30 sharp.

MODERN LANGUAGE CLUB.

A French meeting of the Club was held on Monday afternoon. An essay was read by Mr. Blackstock on "The works of Moliere."

A discussion took place on "The French language in Quebec." Different members of the French Academy were quoted showing that the literary French of Quebec and that spoken by the educated classes is as pure as that of Paris. There is no difference between the French of *La Patrie* and that of *Le Gaulois*.

There is a *patois* in Quebec spoken by the French uneducated classes just as there is one spoken by the illiterate of France or of England.

College News

KNOX COLLEGE.

The next public debate will take place Friday, Feb. 6th. The chair will be filled by Prof. Young, and the question for debate will be "Resolved that public opinion is a safe guide for legislation."

Friday of this week the Students' Missionary Society hold their third annual meeting in Convocation Hall. An interesting item on the programme will be the reading of reports on missionary work by A. W. Haig, B. A., and Mr. A. J. McLeod.

Mr. Dobbin, of the first year theology, who has been seriously ill for some time, is now able to resume his duties.

McMASTER HALL.

Rev. J. J. Baker, M. A., of Belleville, paid us a visit on Tuesday last,

The Fyfe Missionary Society has at work sixteen missionaries in the city, and three in the country.

The cold weather does not cool the ardour of the Football Club, and the ball still continues to bound amid the snow and ice.

The *Cos Ingeniorum* Literary Society met for the election of officers on Friday evening, when the following men were elected: Pres., I. L. Gilmour; Vice-Pres., R. Earside; Sec.-Treas., G. E. Morphy.

Wednesday having been set apart as a day for special prayer on behalf of schools and colleges, the day was observed in McMaster Hall by suspending all lectures and spending most of the morning in devotional services in the chapel.

Drift.

Above the desk of the literary editor of a leading New York journal is pasted the following:—"The Just Rule of Criticism: 'The reputation of books is raised, not by their freedom from defect, but by the greatness of their beauties.—*The Vicar of Wakefield*."

"ROSY-FINGERED MORN."

The night blows outward
In a mist,
And all the world
The Sun hath kissed.

Along the golden
Rim of sky,
A thousand snow-piled
Vapours lie.

And by the wood
And mist-clad stream,
The Maiden Morn
Stands still to dream.

—W. W. CAMPBELL.

Every boy is not fit to be sent to college, because it is not every one for whom a college education is beneficial. Properly applied, a college training is a sort of polish that adheres only to material of fine grain. Culture does not adorn every nature, and, except with the wealthy, the expensiveness of a college course should plainly indicate an expectation of some substantial return. Money should not be wasted in turning basswood into clockwork machinery.—D. A. O'SULLIVAN, in *Educational Monthly*.

PITY 'TIS, 'TIS TRUE.

How often have our most important examining bodies, the Education Department, and the University of Toronto, employed examiners that were not sufficiently wise, conscientious and experienced. Papers have been set, over and over again, at their examinations, with numerous errors, not always typographical. Inexperienced people have been appointed both to prepare and to examine papers. Papers too long by half for the time given have been set. Papers going beyond the limits of the subject as laid down in the curriculum or as prescribed by custom have been set. Papers for an inferior examination have been made equal in difficulty to those of a superior examination in the same subject at the same time. There have been papers entirely too difficult, others entirely too simple. There have been papers so eccentric in treatment, that a candidate who might know perfectly eighty per cent. of the subject prescribed could not make five per cent. of the paper assigned. Papers have been set that gave clear evidence that the examiners had not read the whole of the work which they examined, but had dipped into it only here and there.—*John E. Bryant, in the Educational Weekly*.

THE AGE OF WISDOM.

Ho! pretty page with the dimpled chin,
That never has known the barber's shear,
All your wish is woman to win;
This is the way that boys begin,—
Wait till you come to forty year.....

Forty times over let Michaelmass pass;
Grizzling hair the brain doth clear;
Then you know a boy is an ass.
Then you know the worth of a lass,—
Once you have come to forty year,
—*William Makepeace Thackeray*,

The general characteristics of English popular and traditional music are strength and martial energy. It is a dashing, impulsive, leaping, frolicsome spirit, occasionally overshadowed by a touch of sadness. It has not the tender melancholy of the music of Ireland, nor the light, airy grace, delicate beauty, and heart-wrung pathos of the songs of Scotland, but it has a lilt and style of its own. In one word, the music of England may be described as "merry;" and her national songs partake of the same character, and are jovial, lusty, exultant, and full of life and daring.—CHARLES MACKAY, in the *Nineteenth Century*.

The highest prize ever offered for a literary performance will be awarded in 1925 to the successful author of a simple biography. Fifty years ago, General Arantschejeff, the friend and confidential adviser of the Emperor Alexander I., placed in the imperial bank of Russia the sum of fifty thousand roubles, which is to be allowed to accumulate at interest till the first of December, 1925, when the entire amount, principal and interest, is to be handed over to the author of the best work on the life and reign of Alexander I. The St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences will decide on the merits of the different performances sent in, and award the prize, which will by that time amount to the enormous sum of one million nine hundred and eighteen thousand roubles—about three hundred thousand pounds. A fifth of the amount will be deducted for the cost of printing the work. The remainder will go to the fortunate author.—*Literary Life*.

We are in love's hand to-day;
Where shall we go?
Love, shall we start or stay,
Or sail or row?.....

Our landwind is the breath
Of sorrows kissed to death
And joys that were;
Our ballast is a rose;
Our way lies where God knows,
And Love knows where.

We are in Love's hand to-day.
—Algernon Swinburne.

Prof. T. W. Hunt, of Princeton College, speaking on behalf of the Modern Language Association of which he is a member, says:—"We

hope to live to see the day when the study of the English language and literature will stand in our American colleges fully on a par with that of any other branch of academic culture. We hold tenaciously to the doctrine that the graduates of our colleges should know more of English, as a language and a literature, than they know of any language ancient or modern."

Bishop Hurst, writing to the *New York Independent* from Europe, says: "Where one good picture or statue by living artists stays in Europe, not less than four go to the United States." *The Current* adds: "This is a very eloquent fact. It is idle to consider by whom these pictures are bought or their present temporary lodgment. It matters little whether or not they are for the moment hanging in the exclusive parlors of wealthy private owners. It remains that they are here; that they are slowly and silently exercising a good influence upon the American taste, and that the ultimate and sure consequence is the steady growth of the artistic spirit in the land."

Correspondence.

WHO IS TO BLAME?

To the Editor of THE 'VARSITY.

DEAR SIR:—In your issue of Jan. 24th you call attention to the "tardiness which characterizes the preparation and issue of tickets and programmes for our public debates," and conclude that the blame rests upon the "speakers and readers," but more especially with the Glee Club." I beg to correct this statement: The music for the public; debates, with the exception of one selection, has been arranged for weeks ahead; and the musical part of the programme may be had from the Leader of the Club at least two weeks previous to the dates of the public meetings. I would also add that the readers, so far, have handed in the titles of their selections several days before anything has been done towards the issue of the programmes. If full information was sent in to the General Committee, as it should be, by those who are elected to take part, the Printing Committee, or rather the officer on whom the whole burden falls, would be saved much time and unnecessary trouble.

Yours truly,
M. S. MERCER.

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