

# THE VARSITY

VOL. XIX.

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University of Toronto.

TORONTO, JANUARY 17th, 1900

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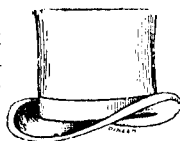
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# THE VARSITY

A Weekly Journal of Literature, University Thought and Events.

VOL. XIX.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, JANUARY 17, 1900.

No. II.

## THE DEAD GAME SPORT.

A DESCRIPTION.

William K. Hotsport is undoubtedly the best known man at Varsity. Indeed, he might be said to be the undergraduates' beau ideal of a university man. Tommy Plug, a rather insignificant fellow, who spends his days and nights in that most plebeian pursuit of knowledge, with honor and medals always in his eye, esteems it as the very greatest honor to be called a friend of Billy Hotsport, and strives always in public to carry himself with the same air as his friend. Ethel Flirthard, the occasional whom all the fellows run after, and whose opinion ought, therefore, to be worth something, thinks Billy "is the whole way." She "doesn't like your goody-goodies," but prefers fellows who have "something in them." Billy is respected even by the freshmen, and Sir Oracle, the irrepressible, is dumb before that condescending familiarity shown him by his sporty senior.

It is in this word "sporty" that you have the secret of Billy's popularity. Freddy Smith, who lounges around in an old felt hat and a smoking-jacket, with a pipe always stuck in his mouth, has far more money; Bob Jones, the half-back, can beat him at any game from shinny to golf; and old Tommy Plug knows more about ancient Rome than Billy knows about King street. None of them, however, carries half so much weight as our hero, for Billy is a "sport," and a "dead game sport," and "a dead game sport" is an idol before whom the ordinary undergrad bows in awful reverence.

Bill carries himself with the air of an aristocrat—of a true American aristocrat who might be worth a million, and talks of "the governor" at home in much the same way as "My Lord" at Oxford might speak of "His Grace," the Duke. As a matter of fact the Hotsports have been numbered among the aristocracy for two generations. Bill's grandfather was not worth a cent when he came to this country. It was Bill's father who worked his patent of nobility by the sweat of his brow. He worked on a farm, taught school, and finally put himself through as a doctor, and having made the requisite amount of money, he was enrolled among our Canadian noblesse, and proceeded to bring up his son William in a manner worthy of the name.

As to the success this honest father met with in raising his son, little need be said. Certain it is that in his twentieth year William K. Hotsport came down to our university with that smattering of useless knowledge known as a High School Education, a somewhat flashy, though not displeasing manner, and an allowance of pocket money much larger than he knew well how to use.

To tell you exactly why he came to the University would perhaps have worried our friend not a little. The governor "hadn't an education himself but he wanted Bill to have one." "A good man couldn't be kept down" said this man, who had proved the statement, "still a college education gives a man a great advantage." His father possessing these exaggerated ideas of the value of four years' training at a university, Bill came to college chiefly because "the governor" considered it was the proper thing to

do, and partly with some ideas of a certain culture that was to be acquired before entering upon his professional studies.

Billy was the first freshman to register on the day the term opened. On the second day he went down to the bookseller and ordered nearly all the books in the calendar. For three weeks he attended lectures with the utmost "religiosity" and prepared the work with due diligence. At the end of three weeks however, there came a change, Bill began to become acquainted with the boys and soon became a convert to the belief that "everything cannot be learned in books, and that culture must be acquired by contact with men." He became fully convinced that "plugging" was very bad form and perhaps a little "low"—all right for those fellows who wanted a good stand to teach or something, but scarcely the correct thing for a man who did not intend to make his living by it. He no longer tries to keep up with the work. Indeed, he brags about how little he does and exaggerates much the extent of his "bumming," and lectures are now "sloped" as much as possible.

When at home Bill was always dressed well by his parents, but as for himself he never worried much about what he wore. He was not long in the city, however, before he became most fastidious as to cut of his clothes, developed a strong passion for neckties, and must have his boots made to order by the most fashionable shoemaker in town. His clothes are always ultra fashionable, and his pants are either the very tightest or the very loosest, according to the fashion. His neckties are always of the most extraordinary patterns and most pronounced colors. He never liked to wear things like everybody else in town had on, he once told me, and this must be the reason why some critical person pronounced his taste "loud."

It must not be imagined that because our young friend is a "sport," he therefore excels in sports. No greater mistake could be made, for your true sport never takes kindly to athletics. He "played the game" the first year he came down, and filled his position on the second team so well that it was said by some that he would make the first team the next year. In the meantime, however, Bill underwent the metamorphosis from which emerged the sport. Owing to the pleasant life that he adopted in his new character he put on a great deal too much weight, and next fall Bill concluded after a few practices that he smoked too many cigarettes to have wind enough to play football, and so football had to go. At present he confines his attention to the two games which every sport plays, poker and pool. The boys say he is not much at billiards, but Bill tells some marvellous stories about the money he has lost and won at poker.

Let no one be surprised that the games of billiards and pool are known at our universities, or that our friend, William Hotsport, should win and lose at them sometimes. All "sporty" fellows are a little fast you know, and above all things Billy desires the reputation of being a sport. Indeed, with this object in view, Billy has acquired the habit of always exaggerating his "sportiness" so that Freddy Smith says that Hotsport is a huge bluff. But it would insult Billy very much to tell him this, for if there is anything he fears it is being considered a "cheap" sport. To illustrate this, the story is told that for some after the two-cent postage came in, Bill persisted in using the three-cent stamp, because the two's looked so cheap.

Whether Freddy Smith is right or not, certain it is that everyone knows exactly how much Bill dropped on the Queen's Plate last year, when his tips were a little off, and rumors are always heard of the amount he has up on a football game or a prize-fight. He does not make any secret either of the fact that he is not a temperance crank, but seems to take a very great delight in posing as a "bold, bad man," and brags to no end about his "boozing" experiences. In like manner he exaggerates his other escapades, and when Ethel Flirthard accused him of being "a bad, wicked fellow," he only smiled, a naughty, wicked smile.

In acquiring this reputation for wildness, with as little dissipation as possible, it seems to me that our friend shows an uncommon amount of shrewdness. Much dissipation would injure his constitution, but the reputation for being wild never does him any harm. Who cares for a fellow who has not got enough in him to sow some wild oats? All the girls think more of a fellow who is not a goody-goody, and Bill is no less a favorite because he is considered a "dead game."

As for work, there is plenty of time for that, the boy is young yet. I know that it cut Bill pretty deep when he got the two stars at the end of his second year, but he told his friends it was dead lucky he got through "considering the time he had," and when he dropped to last place in his third year he was the most pleased man in the year, to outward appearance at least, because he got through. He always blamed it on lack of preparation and too gay a time, and acted so as to convey the impression that he thought he could do as well as Tommy Plug "if he cared to work." I know well, however, that Billy was not so well pleased with himself as he appeared to be, and that he was very much dissatisfied with his stand. Some friends of mine, moreover, having sickness in the family which kept someone up all night told me that for a month before the exams, the light in Billy's room never went out until four or five o'clock in the morning. Besides finally convincing me that Tommy Plug could not be such a thick-headed fellow as he was pictured, to stand head of the class, this information also caused me to doubt whether the life of a sport is so delightful as it is represented.

HAROLD FISHER.

### THE PROPOSED DINING HALL.

Numerous enquiries have been made by returning students as to the opening of the proposed University Dining Hall. The committee in charge of provisional arrangements have concluded that the various matters to be attended to before such a dining hall could be successfully established are such as to make it advisable to postpone definite arrangements until the summer. If the council then decides to open the dining hall in the autumn, students will be all the better able to make arrangements with regard to rooms not too far from 'Varsity.

Y. M. C. A.

Ours was the first Academic function of the new year, and by common consent it was a good beginning. The members and their friends had a delightful time Tuesday evening.

The third of the series of sermons will be conducted by Rev. R. P. Bowles, B.A., B.D., on Sunday next, 21st, at 3.30. You can't afford to miss that meeting.

Thursday afternoon is nomination of officers for '00-01. You want to think out your men and be on hand. There is also a discussion of "Missionary Study."

## OUR ATHLETIC ORGANIZATION.

To a large number of our students, the organization through which our athletics are managed is of very little interest. They enjoy the games of football, they applaud skilful athletic feats in the different departments of sport, they glory in the success of the University teams, and lament their defeat. Yet throughout their interest centres on the athletic feat itself, and enthusiasm for or even interest in, the committee which arranges for and carries through the event is very scant. This feeling is most mistaken, for in many instances more is due to the work of the Athletic Officers in charge than even to the athlete himself. Thus, would Varsity's teams have had such strength in the field, and such enthusiasm for their sport, if there had been no Gymnasium with its equipment of baths at the disposal of the athletes? I think not, and yet this Gymnasium was obtained through the efforts of the first officers of the Athletic Association. Much the same might be said about the procuring of the New Athletic Field, enabling us to play all our public events on our own grounds. Or again how would the reputation of the University sportsmen have fared if the management of our Rugby Club had chosen to play men of doubtful amateurism, or undergraduate standing? These illustrations will serve to show how very important our Athletic Organization is, in securing clean and creditable athletic events.

The question then is, can our organization at the University of Toronto be improved? Many think that it can and should be improved. The great evil of our present system of management is the want of a central governing body, and the consequent lack of co-operation in work. This is seen in two ways; First, in some Club using the University's name, arranging a tour, and going through the country as a University Club, though sometimes playing men who never saw the inside of the College; Second, in the Officer of a University Club contracting obligations which the revenues of the Club do not meet. These debts are held in the name of the Club, and when in the course of the year complaint is made to the Secretary of the Athletic Association by the injured parties, the offending Officer is usually found to have graduated and so is out of harm's way. In this way the name of the University is dragged in the mud, through the action of men who are in no adequate degree responsible for it.

This state of affairs must be remedied, and last year an attempt was made to do so by the appointment of the Athletic Board, a body whose consent must be obtained by University Clubs when laying down some plan of action. The weakness of this Board rests in the fact that it has not sufficient control over the finances of the different clubs.

A plan of organization is here suggested in outline, to be discussed in detail at the annual meeting of the Athletic Association next week.

The main features of the proposed plan are as follows: The establishment of an Athletic Board, composed of say three members appointed by the University Council, and five members selected by the students, this Board to have full control over all athletic matters, and over all athletic clubs which it permits to bear the University's name. Such a body would be responsible both to the faculty and to the students, and would provide for the working together, on a basis of mutual understanding, of the students and the University authorities. The executive officer of this Board would be the Secretary-Treasurer, who should preferably be a young graduate, or one of the younger members of the Faculty, and he should receive a fair salary for his trouble.

This Board should have two main duties:—First, the management of the grounds, allocation of them, and arrangement of public events thereon, the full control and management of the gymnasium and rink, and the holding of any public function such as the Annual At Home of the Athletic Association. Second, the supervision of the policy and finances of all University Athletic Clubs. The second is harder to arrange for, but might be done somewhat as follows:

The first principle of the arrangement is that the Board shall have full control over the finances of all the Clubs. It shall elect for each Club an Assistant Treasurer whose duty it shall be to represent the General Secretary of the Board in that one Club. All moneys received by the Club will be handed at once to the Treasurer of the Athletic Board and obligations may only be incurred by any Club when the sanction of the Secretary has been obtained. When any tour or any line of policy is determined upon by a Club, the sanction of the Board must be first obtained, and then the Secretary will be empowered to provide the required funds. It would be made public that any debt contracted by an Officer of any Club without the sanction of the Secretary of the Athletic Board would be a purely personal debt and not one in which the University's name could be concerned.

There is much more which should be said about the working out of this plan, but space forbids. This much should however be said, that some such plan would do a very great deal to secure a more responsible management of our Athletic Clubs, that it would prevent many of the wasteful undertakings seen in late years, that it would add to the credit of the University's name in sports, and raise the students to a position of confidence in the eyes of their University authorities, and that it would by economy in printing; advertising, etc., enable the students to make their money go farther to secure the ends they desire. In conclusion I hope that many of the students will be sufficiently interested to come out and discuss the matter at the Annual Meeting of the Athletic Association.

T. A. RUSSELL.

## School of Practical Science

### A FEW REMARKS ON MILITARY ENGINEERS.

Now that the formation of an Engineer Corps has become a matter of more than mere words, it may prove of some interest to those intending to join the corps to read the following brief description of military engineers, their formation, duty and work:

The Royal Engineers claim to be the oldest regular arm of the British service. Raised in the middle ages, they were for long the only permanent troops in the King's service, and their duties consisted in building new fortresses, improving existing ones, and planning their destruction—if necessary—when built, together with road making and assistance in sieges.

With the introduction of gunpowder, however, came a great change, and in the earlier days of artillery the "Ordnance Corps," as the engineers were then called, performed as well as their ordinary duties, those of the artilleryman of the present day. Not until early in the last century was any distinction made between these two branches, and towards the end of that century we first find the artillery existing as a separate unit.

About the same time the name of "Royal Engineers" was adopted, to last to the present day.

At present the corps consists of about 1,000 officers

and 7,000 of other ranks; the proportion of officers, it being noticed, is unusually large.

The regimental establishment is as follows: (1) Field troops which are subdivided into (a) a bridging battalion, (b) a telegraph battalion, (c) several field companies, (d) a mounted detachment to accompany a cavalry division, (e) a balloon company, (f) a field depot, (g) a railway battalion, (2) several fortress companies, (3) several survey companies, (4) a training company at Chatham, (5) the Indian corps, (6) the submarine mining battalion.

To attempt to describe the work of each in detail would, I fear, take up too much space, so I must confine myself to a very brief and general description.

If I say that their duties consist in everything, from being chief adviser to the general officer in command of an army corps, down to building a field kitchen in camp, I shall not be very wrong. Each unit carries such materials as its special duties require. When an army is in the field there are roads to be prepared to allow of the passage of artillery and of the transport wagons; bridges to be replaced or perhaps built, telegraphs constructed to allow communication between the main body and its advanced and rear guards, and its base, defensive positions or camping grounds to be surveyed, defensive works of various types; with their numerous entanglements and obstacles to check the enemy, erected; perhaps even railways built, as we have seen done in the last campaign in the Soudan, these and many other duties fall to the lot of an engineer to perform. Nor is their work confined to armies in the field. They must protect our harbors and shipping from hostile fleets by means of submarine mines and such other devices known to them.

Many people, I believe, are misled by the name "Engineer," and think that their work is similar, for instance, to that of a civil engineer. Indeed this is not the case, or if so, what connection there is is a very slight one. An engineer, or a "sapper," as he is commonly called, has no time in the field to sit down and calculate the bending moment of every beam he intends putting into a bridge, or puzzle his brain over moments of inertia, y's or any other such things! He knows by experience that beams 7 or 8 inches in diameter are strong enough to bear the weight of a gun, and that so many feet of earth or so many of concrete and earth, is sufficient to form ample protection from a shell fired from a gun of certain weight. He doesn't trouble about the quality of the earth, or the analysis of the cement he puts in his concrete, but he knows by experience. He has seen it all done before, and tested as well. No! his work is all done hastily, and in the field is of a temporary character. He uses what comes to his hand, and is never at a loss for lack of material. Of course, we see works that are vastly different from those I have mentioned above, ones of a far more permanent character, in which are used heavy steel and timber, and massive masonry work—but all covered with earth or sodded—no masonry is ever allowed, in the present time, to be exposed to the enemy's fire.

The days of elaborate fortresses, with their massive masonry walls, and complicate devices for flanking fire, are gone, never to return, and in their place we find fortifications of a very simple character, in which everything possible is done to make them conform with surrounding objects—covered with earth, sodded, painted, trees and weeds planted; these, with many others, are the devices employed. Indeed at ordinary modern artillery range, 1½ to 2 miles and over, most works are quite indistinguishable.

Surely the motto "Ubique" is appropriate and well earned, for the Royal Engineers must be, and are, everywhere in the modern battlefield, and know a considerable amount of everything pertaining to modern warfare.

## The College Girl

Those who braved the fear of highwaymen and put in an appearance at the first meeting for the spring term of the Women's Literary Society were fully repaid for thus throwing themselves into the breach. The programme on the part of the members was devoted to Eugene Field, and although such "evenings with the poets" have often fallen a prey to the sarcasm of mighty minds, this evening in particular could never be accused of being anything other than most enjoyable. The many-sidedness of Eugene Field's sympathies and therefore of his works, prevented the selections for reading and singing from being monotonous and had the added grace of being exceedingly interesting. Some business with reference to the coming reception, which has been announced for Saturday evening, February 3rd, was first arranged, and then Miss Landon Wright read a short sketch of the life and character of Eugene Field.

Mrs. Fitzgibbon, a member of the Executive Committee of the branch of the Red Cross Society formed in Toronto last October for the benefit of our Canadian contingents, had kindly consented to address the meeting on the work of that Society, and her charming speech was enthusiastically received. She spoke of the danger and privation which our soldiers, who are so little used to it, have to undergo. Men may cavil at the sending of such things as jam and figs to the front, but sometimes the soldiers have to fight many hours on a meal of poor coffee and hardtack, and to such people as object to those articles being sent, the real truth of the war and its sufferings surely does not come home. After tracing the work of the National Aid Society, an outcome of which the Red Cross Society is, from its beginning just after the Crimean war to the work in South Africa in the present—the good it effected in Paris in the Franco-Prussian war, and its noble efforts to supplement the work of the war-office in the Sudan in '84 and '85—Mrs. Fitzgibbon went on to show that it is a work which can well be carried on by women, and a work which must be carried on through a channel which is recognized by the Government. Now our regiments, unlike most Imperial regiments, have no regimental funds, and as the commissariat department is not always able to provide for the soldiers as it should, and as especially in this war; it is thought, England has underrated the power of the enemy and the strength of the force necessary for her to send, we must not shut our eyes to the misfortunes of the soldiers, although they, of course, make no complaint. When the first contingent went, the Society sent with Col. Otter the sum of three dollars for each of the men to be taken up-country with them, and it has been ascertained that Col. Otter found that the Society had acted none too soon. The movement now should be unanimous and so systematic that those who have little may make their little felt, and those who have much may have the privilege of giving. The future movements of the Society are not yet quite defined, but it would be a good thing if the movement could become more wide-spread amongst Canadian women, for there are many who are quite willing to give their time to it. They could send a cargo of clothes and medical supplies that would be most acceptable in the present war, for instance, and for the future would be enabled to act promptly when emergencies arrive, not only those occasioned by war, but any disaster such as flood, conflagration, or famine. In the North-West Rebellion there was no such system, and many things that were sent—even medical supplies—did not arrive in time. Now, however, the money of the Society becomes

instantly effective, as it is not hampered by too much machinery, and—what is far from being unimportant, it is the only outside relief organization recognized and allowed on the field of battle." A vote of thanks was immediately tendered to Mrs. Fitzgibbon on the completion of her speech.

"Little Boy Blue," sung appreciatively by Miss Austin, was followed by some selections from "Love Songs of Childhood," which Miss Carrie Macdonald read with her usual success. Miss Woolryche played one of Schubert's sonatas on her violin, and Miss Robertson sang another of Eugene Field's songs—the "Norse Lullaby," and "The Rockaby Lady from Hushaby Street," for the encore that was speedily demanded. The evening's entertainment ended with a selection from another of Field's books—"The First Christmas Tree," read by Miss E. M. Fleming, and a song from Miss Gall, "Wynken, Blynken and Nod."

Mrs. Loudon, Miss Salter, Mrs. Fletcher, Mrs. Ellis, The Misses McMicking, Mrs. Vandersmissen and Mrs. Hutton, attended the meeting of the Women's Literary on Saturday night.

## NEW BOOKS.

A SELECTED LIST RECEIVED BY THE LIBRARY DURING  
DECEMBER.

- Plarr (V. G.), Men and Women of the Time. 15th ed.  
Milton, Poetical Works, with Life by H. J. Todd. 2nd ed., 7 vols.  
Stevenson (R. L.), Letters. Ed. Colvin. 2 vols.  
Strong (A. H.), Christ in Creation and Ethical Monism.  
Côté (J. O.), Political Appointments and Elections in Province of Canada, 1841-65, and supplement, 1867-95.  
Emerton (E.), Introduction to the Study of the Middle Ages, 375-814.  
Edgren (A. H.), A Brief Spanish Grammar.  
Chandler (F. W.), Romances of Roguery. Pt. I.  
Gayley (C. M.) and Scott, (F. M.), Introduction to the Methods and Materials of Literary Criticism.  
Emerton (E.), Desiderius Erasmus.  
Phillips (A. W.) and Irving Fisher. Elements of Geometry. 2 vols.  
Hayford (J. F.), A Text Book of Geodetic Astronomy.  
Tarr (R. S.), Economic Geology of the United States.  
Darwin (G. H.), The Tides and Kindred Phenomena in the Solar System.  
Beddard (F. E.), A Monograph of the Order of Oligochaeta.  
Campbell (W. W.), Beyond the Hills of Dream.  
Cape of Good Hope Statistical Register, 1898, with supplement for 1899.  
Walpole (Horace), Works. 5 vols.  
Ward (A. W.), A History of England Dramatic Literature to death of Queen Anne. 3 vols.  
Shakespeare's Holinshed. Ed. Boswell Stone.  
English Miracle Plays. Ed. Pollard.  
Jusserand (J. J.), Shakespeare in France.  
Scotland and the Protectorate. Ed. C. H. Firth.  
Palgrave (G. F.), Francis Turner Palgrave; Journals and Memories of his Life.  
Bishop (Mrs. J. F.), The Yangtze Valley and Beyond.  
Theophrastus, Caracteres. Ed. Rev. J. S. Sheppard.  
Henderson (T. F.), Scottish Vernacular Literature.  
Bacon's Essays. Ed. S. H. Reynolds.  
The Milton Anthology. Ed. Arber.  
The Shakespeare Anthology. Ed. Arber.  
The Jonson Anthology. Ed. Arber.  
Breviarium Romanum ex decreto Sti Concilii Tridentini.  
Skeat (W. W.), A Student's Pastime.  
The International Geography. Ed. H. R. Mill.

## THE HARMONIC CLUB TOUR.

Before giving a brief sketch of the work done this year by the Harmonic Club it might not be out of place to make a few suggestions to the undergraduate body with regard to this club in general and its tour in particular.

The idea of an annual tour in connection with the University Glee Club is practically as old as the club itself. The plan as it first suggested itself to the committee which instituted the custom was adopted for two reasons, to secure the best talent among the students by making the tour the prize, and to give the fortunate members an enjoyable outing during the winter holidays. Possibly these two objects have always actuated the different committees, but unfortunately with a gradual tendency to subordinate the first to the second (in late years). The undergraduate who had an intense desire to accompany the club would, early in the term, button-hole some member of the committee, extract a promise of his vote and influence, and then systematically neglect all practices, leaving what work he should do in the term to the practices held immediately before and during the tour. That state of affairs has been unfortunately too prevalent in the past, and was admissible and possible only in the large choruses of the old glee club, where several untrained voices would not appreciably affect the tone of the whole club. As, under the new organization—the Harmonic Club—only sixteen vocalists are chosen for out-of-town engagements, and it is imperative that these sixteen should be as well trained as possible, no man stands a chance of going who has not attended a good percentage of the practices. It is a club organized for the students, and every undergraduate and graduate should feel a personal interest in an organization which, representing them, takes a tour every year. It ought to be a club which should reflect credit upon the University and give the musical people of this province an impression that we can set a high standard in music as well as in art and letters. We have to meet criticism from musical critics all over Ontario, and to satisfy them we ought to have the very best material in the University. Every undergraduate who is musical should connect himself or herself with our musical clubs and give them a practical support. It is surely sufficient reward for the necessary expenditure of time and energy incident to preparing the work, to have the opportunity of representing the musical element in the University before the most cultured and musical audiences in Canadian towns. It is an honor the majority of our undergraduates fail to realize. The sooner they do, the better will our club be supported, and the higher will its standard be placed.

It will be unnecessary to give a lengthy account of this the first tour of the Harmonic Club. It lasted from Dec. 18th to Dec. 23rd, and it was unanimously agreed by all who had the good fortune to go that it was one of the jolliest on record. The towns and cities visited were Guelph, Berlin, St. Thomas, Aylmer and Brantford, and the receptions extended to the organization were very flattering to the members who composed it. From several of these towns invitations have been received for a repetition of the same concert with the assurance of crowded houses. The men who composed the organization this year were: 1st tenors—Boehmer, Carpenter, Brophay, Roland; 2nd tenors—Adams, Biggs, McFarland, Richardson; 1st bass—Jackson, Ingram, Clarke, Hume; 2nd bass—Pirie, Gourlay, Scott, Taylor; Guitars—Montgomery, Phipps, Hume; banjos—Stratton, Fletcher, Graham, Arnott; mandolins—Parsons, Lazier, Richardson, Parry, Treble, Darling; Pianist—T. A. Davies; Conductors—Mr. J. M. Sherlock and Mr. Geo. F. Smedley

The club intends giving a concert in the city some time

in February, and the student body will then have the opportunity of showing their appreciation of the efforts of the Harmonic Club in its endeavor to place the musical organizations of the University upon a higher plane.

R. D. HUME.

## INTER-COLLEGE CLUB.

To the Editor of THE VARSITY:

This is the day of centralisation and union; combinations for both good and bad purposes are being made on every hand, and it may not be unwise to extend the sphere of usefulness of the good. During this last fall and early winter there has been a movement on foot to organise some sort of an Inter-College Club, one of the main objects of which is the promotion of intercourse between the students of the various colleges, with all that this means. For the purpose of discussion, delegates were invited from most of the colleges in the city to meet at Wycliffe on Friday evening, December 15. Unfortunately, very few of the delegates were present (some were leaving or had left the city), and some of those who did come had been appointed by their respective colleges with a misunderstanding as to the nature of the proposal. Consequently nothing definite was done, and after a discussion as to the character of such an organisation as is best fitted to produce good results, the matter was left over till the spring term. Those present were of the opinion that some sort of a club would be desirable. It was pointed out that in order to insure success there must be some bond of union between the members, and it was decided that such a bond might be found in the discussion of some of the important political and social questions of the day in their relation to the student world. It was not hoped that the majority of the students could be brought together directly in this way, but that in a club of some of the more earnest men from the various colleges might be found a nucleus and centre of influence, through which the different classes of students should come to know each other better than they do at present, and by means of which co-operation between the various colleges might be encouraged, and direction given thereto. It was felt that, for the present at least, the meetings of such a club should be held every three weeks or thereabouts, any change in the interval being, of course, in the power of the members.

Consequently, some time during the latter part of January (further notice of the exact date and place will be given), a meeting for organisation will be held. To this meeting all students interested in the formation of such a club are cordially invited. There is no reason why this association should not become a powerful factor in the student life of Toronto, and even though its beginning be small, yet as the years pass it may grow to immense stature and power, and wield an influence over our country which no one can foreshadow.

Dec., 1899.

W. C. GOOD, '00.

This year the University of Toronto Athletic Association has erected two large rinks on the south end of its splendid Athletic Field. One rink is reserved exclusively for skating, the other is used for hockey except at certain hours, when both rinks are reserved for skaters. Electric light has been put in, and both rinks will be open afternoon and evening, unless the weather forbids. A band has been in attendance three times already, and has been arranged for every Thursday evening, and probably Saturday afternoon. Season tickets, ladies, 75 cents, men, \$1. It is proposed to run off a series of Inter-Year and Inter-Faculty Hockey Games, to which the season tickets admit.

# The Varsity

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TORONTO, January 17th, 1900.

With this number a new Editor comes under the critical eye of the student body. He appreciates the magnitude of the responsibility resting upon him to sustain the standard not only of the immediate but of the remote past. He trusts that, while striving himself to do his part, his efforts will be taken with consideration and in all good faith and will be seconded by the practical support of the undergraduate body which he but represents.

THE VARSITY will be continued on lines much the same as those of the past. Special prominence will be given to matters which are purely undergraduate and academic, either of the past or of the present. The Editor purposes publishing a series of undergraduate articles on matters which are of interest to the readers generally. He also expects to be able to publish articles by certain graduates who have entered successfully some one of the non-academic professions.

## EVENING STUDY IN THE LIBRARY.

During the last three months THE VARSITY has referred editorially to certain matters connected with the University College library. The suggestions thrown out have met with very favorable consideration. We wish to refer to another matter in the same connection, one which must appeal to all undergraduates and one which can hardly help being favored by the University Council. We refer to the opening of the library to the undergraduates for evening study and evening reading, much after the plan which is now in vogue in Harvard, Yale, Michigan, Columbia, North Western and other American colleges.

The reasons why access to the library during the evening is advisable are manifold. In many of the courses lectures and laboratory work continue from nine to twelve and from one to five, leaving but half an hour for advanced reading; and that half hour is probably very necessary for recreation or physical exercise in the gymnasium. We admit that the facilities offered for getting books out over night are an advantage along this line, but they are certainly not adequate. Another argument arises which has to do with the physical well-being of many students.

They must needs often, to get other necessary conveniences, accept rooms which, while being warm enough for the purposes of sleep, are anything but comfortable for studying—we hear of students studying in their overcoats. Others have rooms which, being small and confined, become extremely close when occupied continuously from seven in the evening until eight the next morning. Ventilation, while possible, would often be inexpedient in the coldest weather. Those who have had four years' boarding-house experience know well the discomforts that often surround one when studying during the four or five hours of the evening in the average boarding-house. Students are fashioned differently, some prefer the daytime and some the evening for their work. We firmly believe that the four or five hours before retiring are proportionately of the most consequence. Why then should the student be denied the use of the library during these hours?

The most important argument which can be brought against the proposal is that of increased expense. We admit that the cost of the extra lighting and the wages of the librarian's assistant and of the caretaker for the extra time are items of import, but we question whether these should stand in the way when the possible utility of the library would be increased by at least one half.

One other phase of the question deserves consideration. Would the student body appreciate the change? Would they support the move sufficiently? We certainly believe they would. There are many who would use the library almost continually. If a student would avail himself at least once a week of the opportunity, from his standpoint the change would be advisable. We believe the library was kept open in the evening some few years ago, but we also believe that the non-success of that attempt was due to causes which could now be avoided, and that the experience then gained would be an additional guarantee of its present success.

This seems to be a subject that well deserves consideration. THE VARSITY invites discussion of the question in its columns. We think that if the student opinion is favorable it could be put into such definite shape as to warrant action on the part of the Council.

The Varsity dinner saw the consummation of one of the most successful functions ever held in connection with University College. Not for some years at least has a college dinner been held where professors, business men, men of letters, statesmen and lawyers have met together in a speech-feast which was enjoyed so thoroughly from the Latin grace to the singing of "God Save the Queen."

VARSIITY wishes God-speed and a safe return to those Canadians who have so gallantly gone forth to fight for the integrity of the Empire and the advancement of freedom, and especially to those who have gone representing our Alma Mater. We feel proud of Robert Blythe and Frederick Davey.

## SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers are requested to settle immediately with the Business Manager. Office hours: Thursday (10-12), Friday (10-12).



# The News

## THE ORATORICAL CONTEST

will be held on Jan. 26th. Several contestants have entered. The prize (a medal) is presented by the Premier, Hon. G. W. Ross, LL.D.

### THE LIT.

The last meeting of the Literary Society, though not attended in a manner which would make the hearts of the Committee glad, was a record-breaker so far as speech-making went. The program, which was arranged by Mr. Cassidy at the last minute, consisted of short, crisp, two minute speeches from the following: A. C. Campbell, W. M. McKay, F. M. Chapman, E. F. Burton, G. A. Cornish, J. L. McPherson, W. G. Wilson, R. A. Cassidy, J. Baird, R. B. Cockrane, F. E. Brown, J. R. S. Scott, H. M. Sinclair, O'Dell, W. Nicol, J. Hutton and A. E. Hamilton. Messrs. Garvey and Cassidy were appointed to represent 'Varsity against McGill on the Forum. The sending of a representative to Queen's conversazione provoked some discussion. Mr. F. E. Brown moved that owing to the lack of funds in the coffers of the Literary Society, no representative be sent. As it required a two-third's vote to overthrow the action of the executive the motion was lost. The following were nominated: F. E. Brown (withdrew), W. Elmslie, R. S. Laidlaw, G. F. Kay and J. F. M. Stewart, and the election resulted in favor of Mr. Kay.

A very interesting debate took place in the Literary Society at the last meeting before Xmas, on "The Most Important Side of College Life, the Academic or the Social and Athletic." Messrs. Wilcox and McCready for the affirmative and Messrs. O'Dell and Baird for the negative. It was decided in favor of the affirmative.

### RED CROSS FUND.

The result of the loyal movement to raise funds for the Second Contingent bids fair to be a successful one, and at present Toronto University and its many colleges are being thoroughly canvassed. It is a proof of real patriotism when students in their busiest term will lay down their books and assume the disagreeable task of soliciting subscriptions. The number of officers in the various class years who have offered their assistance in this work proves to the originators of the movement that it only needed a spark to light up a bright fire of enthusiasm. It was unanimously decided at a recent meeting that out of the probable sum raised by the students of University College, a purse of \$30.00 should be given to Mr. F. Davey, a student in the first year leaving for the front; the remainder being voted to the Commanding Officer of the Contingent. The purse will be sent to its recipient at Halifax, and it will be a proof to him that his comrade-in-letters is not as "absent-minded beggar" as his comrade in arms. Miss McMicking, Sec.-Treas. of the University Ladies' Red Cross Fund, desires to convey thanks to the Literary Societies of University College for their hearty co-operation and support.

Mr. Frederick Davey, who has had some experience on the western plains, first offered his services as a rough rider, but there was no vacancy. At the last moment it was found that one of the men on D. Battery was unable through sickness to go. The officer in command asked Davey if he were willing to fill the vacancy. The offer was immediately accepted, and Davey left for Ottawa with D. Battery two hours after he was offered the chance.

### ANOTHER EX-VARSITY MAN GOES TO THE FRONT.

Rev. Robt. Blyth, B.A., of Belwood, an undergraduate for two years in Varsity and a graduate of McGill, has joined the second contingent. Mr. Blyth belonged to the class of '98 and was one of the most prominent men of his year, holding among other positions that of president of his class. While at college here he took the honor philosophy course.

### CONVERSAT COMMITTEE.

The conversazione will be held on Friday, February 9th, and promises to be better than ever. No pains will be spared by the Committee to make it a success. The following is the Committee in charge.

Program Committee—H. Graham (Convener); P. A. Greig, '00; W. G. Wilson, '00; R. D. Hume, '00; R. A. Cassidy, '01; E. F. Burton, '01; J. Mulcahy, '01; A. E. Hamilton, '02; J. A. Soule, '02; J. C. Ross, '03; — Clarke, '03; W. W. Beardmore, S.P.S.; H. Boehmer, S.P.S.

Refreshment Committee—J. F. M. Stewart (Convener); F. Morrison, '00; H. Sinclair, '00; J. W. Ritchie, '00; A. F. Aylesworth, '01; F. M. Chapman, '01; H. C. Lazier, '01; J. W. Cunningham, '02; R. B. Cochrane, '02; R. M. Stewart, '02; G. Robertson, '03; Chas. Allen, '03; A. Laidlaw, S.P.S.; J. A. Wheelihan, S.P.S.

Printing Committee—F. E. Brown (Convener); A. N. Mitchell, '00; W. Elmslie, '00; R. J. Wilson, '00; G. F. McFarland, '01; J. B. Coyne, '01; W. Hanley, '01; S. P. Biggs, '02; E. W. McKenzie, '02; G. S. Hodgson, '02; D. B. Gillies, '03; Lorne Allen, S.P.S.; W. F. Sheppard, S.P.S.

Decoration Committee—W. G. Harrison (Convener); W. J. Donovan, '00; E. H. A. Watson, '00; G. F. Kay, '00; J. E. Robertson, '01; G. M. Clarke, '01; P. A. Carson, '01; J. R. Bell, '02; R. J. Young, '02; H. J. Symington, '02; H. W. Hoyles, '03; G. Biggs, '03; A. Mullin, '03; S. E. N. Henderson, S.P.S.; W. Campbell, S.P.S.

Invitation Committee—E. Cooper (Convener); A. C. Campbell, '00; J. H. R. Gillespie, '00; R. M. Millmen, '00; W. W. McLaren, '01; E. J. Kylie, '01; F. V. Potvin, '01; R. J. Hamilton, '02; J. A. Martin, '02; P. B. Chadsey, '03; F. C. Jackson, S.P.S.; W. Douglas, S.P.S.

Reception Committee—R. Telford (Convener); A. N. W. Clare, '00; H. F. Gooderham, '00; W. R. Meredith, '00; E. P. Brown, '01; E. M. Ashworth, '01; E. R. Patterson, '02; A. W. Mackenzie, '02; F. Rutter, '03; E. V. Neelands, S.P.S.; J. T. R. Burnside, S.P.S.

## MOCK PARLIAMENT.

The Literary Society will, on next Friday evening, hold a Mock Parliament, between the 4th year, under C. Garvey (Government), and the 3rd year under E. J. Kylie (Opposition). A good crowd should be on hand with a full quota of "Questions" to test the powers of repartee of the Garvey Government.

*Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate:*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

We have much pleasure in welcoming you to this, the Fourteenth Parliament of Canada. We regret to have to inform you that the country was left in a deplorable condition by our late constitutional advisers, but that since the assumption of office by the present ministry great intellectual and material progress has been made. It give

us pleasure to inform you that the bonds of Empire have been drawn closer yet by the acceptance by the Imperial Government of your offer of a second contingent of Canadian Volunteers for service in South Africa, and that this second contingent will leave for the scene of war in a few days. We have the utmost confidence in our present advisers, and trust that with your aid they will be able to enact such legislation as will ensure the continuance of the present prosperity in Canada.

*Hon. Gentlemen of the Senate :*

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

The following measures will be proposed for your consideration :

1. To permit the Ministry to defray the entire expenses of the two South African contingents.
2. To compel every student at Toronto University to contribute 25 cents to the Red Cross Fund.
3. To arrange for boxing contests at the annual assault-at-arms.
4. To abolish the present system of entrance to the University of Toronto.
5. To resurrect the time-honored "scrap" at University elections.
6. To fix the price of tickets for the conversazione as follows: Single tickets, \$1; double tickets, \$1.99.
7. To authorize the janitor to take down notices from the Bulletin Board at the end of 6 months.
8. To fix the terms upon which Newfoundland may enter into Canadian Confederation.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons :*

You will be asked to vote supplies for the following purposes:

1. To provide Canadian farmers with free agricultural implements.
2. To establish a University Dining Hall on Co-op. principles.
3. To establish (form) a Ladies' Hockey Club in connection with Toronto University.
4. To provide pensions for the wives and families of freshmen disabled at the annual hustle.
5. To assist the Finns to emigrate to Canada.
6. To stock the Humber Piggery with Boers from South Africa.

Premier and President of the Council, Sir Charles Garvey, G.C.M.G.; Minister of Finance, Hon. H. M. Sinclair, L.L.D.; Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Hon. F. E. Brown, B.A., LL.B.; Minister of Justice, Sir Fred. Stuart, K.C.B., Q.C.; Minister of Railways and Canals, Hon. G. M. Stuart, B.A.; Minister of Militia and Defence, Hon. A. H. McLeod, V.C.; Minister of Agriculture, Hon. A. W. Keith; Minister of Interior, Hon. Alexander C. Campbell; Minister of Public Works, Sir George A. Cornish, Bart.; Post Master General, Hon. R. J. Wilson, D.D.; Minister Without Portfolio, Sir Robert Connor, M.A., K.C.M.G.

J. Roy Scott, W. C. Good and Geo. F. Kay will be gazetted as a Royal Commission to survey the Chemical Building and define the boundaries outside which students are not allowed to roam.

The front benches of the opposition will be filled by E. J. Kylie (Leader), E. F. Burton, A. I. Fisher, — Hogg, — Miller, A. F. Aylesworth and others.

The students should remember the first Saturday public lecture, subject "Tennyson," by Rev. Armstrong Black, January 20th, at 3.15, in the Chemistry building.

—They fail, and they alone, who have not striven.—  
*Aldrich.*

## The Sports

"LOOKING BACKWARD."

The Mulock Cup Game between the School of Practical Science and the Sophomores, last Friday afternoon, brought to a close another very successful season of Rugby Football at Toronto University. Early in September the players began to return to Toronto and turn out to practice, and the work that was done in the early part of the season was without doubt the reason why Varsity again carried off the Intercollegiate Championship. Both McGill and Queen's were quite easily beaten in the opening games in Toronto, and while Varsity again defeated McGill at Montreal it was only by a small margin, while at Queen's they were beaten in the second game. They had, however, made enough points to secure the championship.

This year we have not played the champions of the O.R.F.U. for the championship of Canada, and so one cannot very well compare the qualities of the games played in the two leagues. The game which Varsity lost to the Argonauts on Thanksgiving Day was not a criterion of the ability of either team, and of Varsity especially, as on that day they played without their captain, and it is of vital importance to Varsity's style of game to have the regular captain playing.

One pleasing occurrence this season was the appearance in this country of the Irish Football Team, and the game that they played with Varsity gave one a chance to compare the two styles of Rugby, the English and the Canadian. While a natural pride makes one prefer the Canadian game, yet one cannot deny that in some respects the English game is superior. To cite one instance, it is quite clear that the English method of putting the ball into scrimmage is much less open to crookedness than the Canadian way. The result of this game was to make Canadian players realize the imperfections of our game, and so we have as a remedy the Burnside rules, which aim to better matters by a closer adoption of the American game. This, let us hope, is only the beginning of an agitation which will end in placing the Canadian game on a par with the English as far as fairness is concerned.

The record of the second team, while not nearly so good as that of the first, is nevertheless one to be proud of. Starting in almost entirely with new material they won the first round from Trinity and were only beaten for the championship by the strong R.M.C. team, which many think is a match for any team in the senior series.

Of the third team nothing need be said excepting that they were unfortunate enough to meet in their first match early in the season the strong London team and were badly beaten, thus losing all chances of winning their series.

Finally the season was closed with the annual Mulock Cup Games, which were more exciting and more closely contested this year than ever. With two exceptions the scores were within a few points of each other, and in almost every case the game was not won until the whistle had blown. The second year in Arts won out from century by the very narrowest margin, and S.P.S. only beat St. Michaels by one point. All this goes to show how little there was to choose between the first four teams.

Next spring the first team will lose most of their wings by graduation, but with the back division almost intact and the old quarter we shall have a nucleus around which we shall be able to build up a team which shall again land the Intercollegiate Championship.

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**RINK.**—Band Thursday evening and Saturday afternoon. Admission 10 cents. Season tickets, 75 cents and \$1.

W. J. Rusk, B.A., former Fellow in Mathematics, was round the halls for a few days paying a visit to old friends.

We regret to hear that H. J. Symington, '02, has been unable to return to Varsity on account of serious illness, we wish him a speedy recovery.

The Freshman class is certainly to be congratulated on the success of its reception on Dec. 16th. The special musical program was not the least enjoyable feature.

Let Varsity Arts be prepared for the inter-year hockey series.

Fourth year men were pleased to see L. R. Whitely and L. E. Jones back at lectures again.

G. F. K.—“Nobody knows! Ha! ha!” Friend—“What?” K.—“Where I spent Xmas.” Friend—“Don't they though!”

The annual meeting of the University of Toronto Baseball Club will be held on Friday, the 19th, at 4.30, in the Student's Union. All interested turn out.

Perplexed Freshman to Senior—“What would you advise me to do to meet some of the nicest girls in Toronto?” Senior—“Pshaw, is that all you want to know? Why come to the Varsity Conversazione, Feb. 9th.”

Annual meeting of the Athletic Association in Students' Union, Wednesday Jan. 24th, at 4.30 p.m.

“Shall I brain him?” cried the bobby, “And the victim's courage fled; “You can't, it's a freshman; Just hit him on the head.”—*Ex.*

Leader of Harmonic Club—“I think —'s voice ought to be cultivated abroad.” 1st vice-pres. '00—“Anywhere but around Varsity.”

The following appears editorially in the *Pennsylvanian* of Monday, Jan. 8th: “The invitation to Toronto University (rowing club) marks, we trust, the beginning of a friendly rivalry between our Canadian rivals in sports and ourselves, and it is gratifying to all those who have advocated the breaking up of the caste system in intercollegiate athletic relations.”

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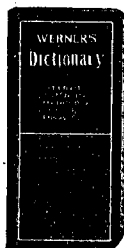
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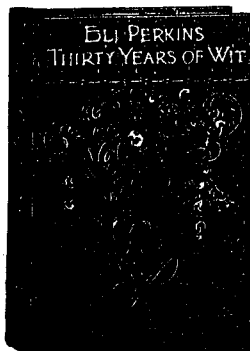


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Policeman, passing on—"Them's about the toughest and noisiest students I ever see."

A meeting was held by the University College boys and it was decided to receive contributions from the boys in order to give a hearty send-off to Frederick Davey, '03, and to N. R. Gray, '02, modern languages. A day or two afterwards, and after considerable funds had been raised, N. R. turned up in his accustomed place in the class-room. He declared that South Africa was too "hot" a place for him, and that he never had any intention of becoming a soldier.

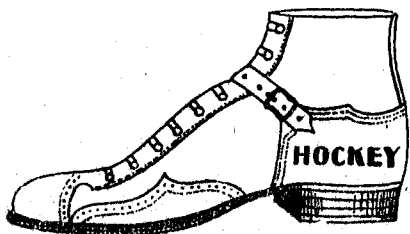
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Keep the evening of Feb. 5th open. Full announcement of "Evening with Goethe" in next week's VARSITY.

The century class Year Book committee expect to be able to make a definite announcement in a few days.

Members of the senior year are requested to sit at Rowley's for their graduating photos as soon as possible.

A very large and appreciative audience assembled at the first regular meeting of the spring term on Friday last. P. A. Carson, '01, read an interesting paper on "The History of the Philosophical Magazine." J. C. McLennan, B.A., demonstrator in physics, gave a carefully prepared lecture, illustrated by experiments, on "Oscillatory Electrical Discharges."

### "HOW TO THINK"

A very large and attentive audience assembled in the chemical amphitheatre on Monday to hear Prof. Hume tell them "How to Think." The lecturer made his remarks both interesting and instructive; he outlined the process by which thought was accomplished, and pointed out, especially, the importance of developing a thought the moment it arose. He spoke on the value of memory, and the necessity there was for its cultivation, and on the value of imagination when applied even to the exact sciences. He showed that thought was constructive, and that in thought the whole was greater than the sum of the parts.

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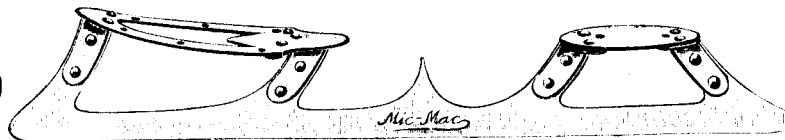
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