

THE VARSITY

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MOUNTAIN VOICES.

From Heine.

A Knight through a mountain gorge,
At a solemn pace doth ride ;
" Ah ! shall I come to my darling's arms,
Or find in death a bride ?"
The mountain voices sighed :
" In death a bride !"

The Knight rides slowly on,
A groan escapes his breast ;
" Then I am doomed to early death,—
Ah well ! with death is rest !"
The voices answering pressed :
" With death is rest !"

A tear rolled down his cheek,
And on his bosom fell ;
" Since death alone can bring me rest,
For me then death is well."
The hollow voices swell :
" Then death is well."

J. H. MOSS.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO.

IV. THE QUEBEC CAMPAIGN.

A very important step was gained when the University and College were at length safely housed in their new home. But so long as the University consisted to so large an extent of the representatives of institutions, whose interests were opposed to it ; while both the graduates and the professors of the College were excluded : it was impossible that harmonious co-operation, or true confidence could exist. An extract from the speech of Dr. Wilson before the Parliamentary committee at Quebec in 1860 will illustrate the feeling that prevailed. Referring to the composition of the senate, and the appointment of examiners, when at length, three of the professors, in addition to Dr. McCaul, had been put on the Board, he said :

" It may sound very plausible to those who know nothing about the facts of the case to talk of the injustice of four Professors sitting on a Board numbering forty-three members, which had the entire control of their courses of teaching and system of study. Let it be remembered, however, that until they were added to it, the seditious of the Senate frequently presented the anomaly of a university and college controlled in all their arrangements by those who systematically withheld, not only the students of Cobourg, but the medical students of Toronto, from the University over which they exercised so much control. Had Victoria, Queen's, or Trinity College actually recognized the University as such, while maintaining a thorough independence as separate colleges, the Senate would never have been driven to the necessity of giving so large a share in the oversight of the University examinations to Professors of University College. . . . But it is a proposition which no reasonable man could entertain, that the Professors of such colleges should—as they now do,—examine their own students, confer degrees on them by right of their own university powers, and even establish a faculty at the seat of the University of Toronto, so as to confer the degrees of Victoria College on Toronto students ; and yet that they should also be the governors and examiners, or electors of the examiners, of the University they disown."

The mischievous results from such a system became at length

so manifest that Sir Edmund Head interposed ; and in the exercise of the powers conferred on him by the University Act of 1853, he, in 1857, named as members of the Senate, three of the Professors, Croft, Cherriman and Wilson ; and to those were added subsequently, Dr. Larratt W. Smith, T. Helliwell, Judge T. Boyd, Adam Crooks, Dr. McMichael, T. E. Thompson, T. D. Armour and J. K. Kingsmill, all old graduates of the University. With this important change the hopes of the friends of the University and College revived.

From accounts given by old members, the Senate must have been a very different body then from the sober matter-of-fact board that now conducts the routine of University business. In those old days it was as clearly divided into two parties as the House of Commons at Ottawa. They had their leaders ; and their fiery discussions were prolonged at times into the morning. With Dr. Ryerson, the skilled tactician, bent on winning for Cobourg a good slice of the endowment ; and not without influence in filling up vacancies on the Senate : it took constant vigilance on the part of the graduates and professors to hold their own. Mr. Langton succeeded to Dr. McCaul as Vice-Chancellor, and did good service, till the removal of the Parliament to Quebec carried him away from the field of action. But, happily, he still held office when the memorable onslaught of 1860 brought the conflict to an issue. The history of that famous struggle is to be found in the " Proceedings and evidence of the Select Committee on the Petition of the Rev. Joseph Stinson, D.D., etc., etc., in relation to the University of Toronto." The blue book is voluminous, but well worth dipping into. At the request of the Senate, however, Mr. Langton and Dr. Wilson prepared a statement including their addresses, with notes and extracts from the evidence. The future historian of the University will not fail to study those documents.

A new generation of graduates has grown up since the exciting times of that Quebec conflict. It is very doubtful if the men of our own day realize how narrowly their University escaped extinction. There was no secret made of the deliberate purpose to break up the endowment and divide it among the denominational Colleges. Dr. Cook was then principal of Queen's College. Dr. Ryerson and Dr. Nelles undertook the cause of Victoria College, under the nominal lead of Dr. Stinson, President of the Conference. The Rev. Provost of Trinity College, and other members of denominational Colleges, also appeared before the Committee. As to their object being the division of the endowment, this was avowed without the slightest disguise, and may be concisely indicated by a passage from Mr. Langton's reply.

" It is argued," he said, " that the Collegiate Institutions supported by the different denominations, have, by the Act, an equitable, if not a legal, right to an apportionment of the University endowment. Dr. Cook supports this view upon what he conceives to be the well known and easily proved policy of the framers of the University Amendment Act ; Dr. Stinson upon what he considers ' the plain letter and obvious design ' of the Act."

This was the contention of the assailants or the University from first to last. Nor was there any mystery as to the purpose of the Government if the petitioners could only succeed in making out their case against the University. The policy of the Government was, long subsequently, set forth very explicitly to a Toronto audience. On the return of Sir John A. Macdonald from England, at the close of 1884, with the distinguishing mark of royal favour, as a Knight Grand Cross of the Bath, it will be remembered that he was welcomed by a large and enthusiastic assembly in the Grand Opera House here. On that occasion he explained what his plans for edu-

cational reform had been so early as 1847; and they corresponded precisely with those current at Quebec in 1860. Here are his words:—"It was proposed," he said, "that the University should remain a Church of England institution. That an endowment should be given out of the same fund to Victoria College as representing the Methodists; to Queen's College, as representing the Presbyterian body; and to Regiopolis College, as representing the Roman Catholics;" and to show how little idea even an eminent Canadian statesman then had of the financial requirements of a thoroughly equipped University, he added: "and the balance—and there would have been a considerable balance, if it had been well administered,—was to have been given to the support of Grammar and Common Schools!" As to the administration of the fund, that was the subject of a later controversy which we propose to notice in our next. But meanwhile the graduates and students of 1886 can judge for themselves how great was the risk in 1860, that before their time for matriculation arrived, their studies would have been limited to a commentary on the *requiescat in pace* inscribed on some stray boulder in the vacant University grounds.

VIDI.

A BALLADE OF THE STIRRUP-CUP.

A Flemish Painting.

The sky is blind with night and sleet and rain,
And ever,—as when winds are out at sea,—
The storm-gusts drive across a drear champaign
Where darkness holds its pathless sovranly.
A traveller 'neath the sheltering wayside tree,
Where crosses the road a shaft of ruddy light
From the old house, many-gabled, cheerily
Turns in his saddle and tightens its girths aright.

He brushes his rain-wet beard, and bends to chain
Slacker the bit, and make the check-strap free.
Bearing the stirrup-cup—ere he has yet drawn rein—
To the cloaked, high-booted horseman, cometh she,
The pensive Flemish child, half timidly;
He thanks the little maiden from his height
Gravely, and resting the flagon on his knee,
Turns in his saddle and tightens its girths aright.

Draining the flagon, with face set towards the plain,
He calls again to his friend with a traveller's glee,
The jovial goodman in the doorway, fain
That he should ride no further,—within you see
The great logs blaze on the hearthstone cheerfully.
—With thirty leagues before him in the night,
The swarth-faced horseman, breathing heavily,
Turns in his saddle and tightens its girths aright.

L'Envoi.

Prince, half-timidly, half-trustfully,
She looks up at the horse, foam-flecked with white,
The wistful little maid; and the traveller,—he
Turns in his saddle and tightens its girths aright.

W. J. H.

SHAKESPEARE AND SOPHOCLES.

The most ardent admirers of antiquity will admit that if all the masterpieces of the classic poets were grouped together as the production of one mind, the volume would not far surpass the works that are generally attributed to the authorship of William Shakespeare. Yet if we were to select from among those poets the one most worthy of comparison with the 'prince of dramatists,' the lot would in all probability fall upon Aeschylus. It is in the grandeur of his verse, the originality of his genius, and the pathos of his tragic scenes that we find the nearest counterpart to the noblest efforts of Shakespeare. But of the many sides from which the genius of the English poet may be viewed there is one, not so severe and terrible in its tragic effect it is true, yet none the less original and interesting in its nature, which corresponds to the talent of

Sophocles as displayed in the best specimen of his extant works, the 'Antigone.' The drama which is regarded as the best representative of this side of Shakespeare's genius is 'Romeo and Juliet.' It is true that only in the Greek comedians can we find any trace of the humour and lightness which we meet with in Shakespeare inserted so aptly and effectively at almost every turn, imparting a pleasure such as youth feels at turning from the sick-chamber to mingle in the gaiety of the ball-room. The absence of this quality, however, in the Greek tragedians is not remarkable when we consider the sombre aspect in which they regarded life and its surroundings. Had they admitted this humour, so pleasing in modern times, in their representations of ideal heroism and performance of duty in the face of opposition, the sober feelings of an Athenian audience would have been outraged. Such a devout feeling being uppermost in the mind of Sophocles accounts for his evident severity of style, though his versification was the softest and most fluent of the Classic period.

But apart from this, the two plays, in so far as they represent the ideal womanhood characteristic of each age, have a striking similarity. Sophocles' heroine resembles Shakespeare's in the depth of love which each displays, the quality most admired in modern times as being true to nature. In this respect they both differ from Aeschylus. His ideal lacks this quality. She attempts to obey even by recourse to crime a higher justice of her own framing, a course not human, much less womanly. Equally remarkable is the fate which awaits both Haeman and Romeo. The one is on the point of threatening his father's life through indignation at his treatment of Antigone; when recovering his self-control he stabs himself. The other courts the favour of his father's mortal enemy through his love for Juliet, and when he sees her apparently lifeless body, drinks the fatal draught. Violent passion, uncontrolled by reason and balked by the treatment of their kinsmen, is the cause of death to both. The dramas are thus essentially lyric. The power of love oversteps the bounds of conventional form and family prejudice. This is probably the reason why these two plays are so popular, containing as they do the idea underlying almost every novel.

T. A. GIBSON.

VOX HUMANA.

One radiant summer morn I drifted idly into the Cathedral Church. The massive arches were throbbing with the stately chaut and sonorous billows from the organ. The golden shimmer of day streamed through richly carved and mullioned windows in wine-tinted splashes of colour that danced on the uneven pavement, and then were lost in the dark maze of the sculptured pillars. All at once a solemn hush settled over the vast congregation, broken only by mutter of prayer. It was the consecration. A low note from the organ—a pleading, pathetic cry that swelled forth on the incense-breathing air and hovered over the kneeling worshippers, then soared up to the empyrean as if to seek the Infinite, with the tale of all our weariness. The soul, struggling against its mortal bands in an agony of ecstasy, strove to follow—but alas! could not.

B.

OUR NATIONAL LITERATURE.

Last month I was surprised to see in one of our evening papers, an editorial which deprecated the formation of a distinctively Canadian literature, and advocated the amalgamation of our literary productions with those of the United States.

It was asserted also, that Canadians were one with the United States, in manners, in customs and in modes of thought. Also that a national magazine for Canada was no more necessary, than a separate publication of this sort would be for any one of the United States.

Now, I do not agree with the writer of the aforesaid editorial, for the following reasons.

I think that a National Literature tends to develop and perpetuate those loyal and patriotic sentiments which are essential to the prosperity of every nation. In fact, I believe that no nation ever yet attained to any high position without the aid of such a literature, either handed down in the shape of oral traditions, or bequeathed in the form of written historical records.

Then it is to be remarked that we are not at present annexed to the United States. And it is possible that we never may

become politically united with them. So that if we merged our literary productions with theirs, the whole would be classed as American Literature, *i. e.*, the Literature of the people of the United States. And thus the identity of their works being lost, no credit would accrue to Canadian authors as a class. The inhabitants of the United States style themselves "*Americans*," as if they were the only people living in North America, or even on the whole continent. Europeans also fall into this mistake very readily, and more than once credit has been given to the United States when it was rather due to Canada.

Our history, too, has had its effect in developing our manners and customs, so that they do not much resemble those of the United States. Even if we were to become politically united with them, yet, we should probably differ from them in many respects for perhaps a century.

Neither, on the other hand, should the literary productions of Canadians be classed under the head of *English or British* literature, as in this case also their identity would be lost.

It is useless to argue that Milton, Shakespeare and Bacon belong to us as much as to England. It is true, that as members of the Anglo-Saxon race we lay claim to them in common with the inhabitants of England. But as Canadians we cannot share their glory. As well might the French Canadians of the Province of Quebec claim relationship with Fenelon or Racine. "Borrowed plumes" are not desirable. Mr. Roberts struck the right chord when, in his poem, "Canada," he asked,

"How long the trust in greatness *not thine own*?"

I feel confident that whatever may be the political destiny of Canada, whether Annexation, Imperial Federation, or Independence, still it will be advisable to preserve a distinctively national literature.

It is also worthy of note that one-third of our population is of French descent, and therefore has little sympathy with the opinions of the people of the United States or of England.

And I must here remark that, up to the present time, the literary attainments of the French Canadians far exceed those of the English-speaking people of Canada—I mean as regards their contributions to our National Literature.

Especially have our compatriots distinguished themselves in the historical department of our literature. Parkman derived much of his information regarding the early history of Canada and the United States from the "Jesuit Relations" of the 17th century, which history occupies about the same position with reference to Canadian history as the "Saxon Chronicle" occupies with respect to early English annals.

Gameau, Casgrain and Lemoine contributed much to our historical literature.

Frechette is acknowledged to be our greatest poet, and his genius has been acknowledged by the French Academy.

Lesperance has written one of our best novels, *i. e.*, "The Bastonnais."

I might mention many other names, but space fails me.

Now the works of all these would be lost to Canada, if our Literature were merged with that of the United States.

I think, too, it is high time that we had a good Canadian magazine. We have sufficient literary ability in this Dominion to support an institution of this sort. And such a magazine would be popular beyond our borders, if conducted in a *national*, as opposed to (what I may call) a *provincial* spirit.

Let it be understood that there is as much literary ability in Quebec as in Ontario; and be it remembered that the Maritime Provinces have given us a Sir William Dawson and a Haliburton.

I write this as a Canadian; and I trust that all true Canadians will endorse what I say. I have no special preference for any province of Canada. We are One.

JOHN B. PYKE.

MR. JOHN KING'S "OTHER SIDE OF THE STORY."*

When Mr. J. C. Dent announced his intention of writing the first true, unprejudiced, and non-partisan history of the Upper Canadian Rebellion of 1837, all interested in the history

* *The Other Side of the Story.* Being some reviews criticizing "The Story of the Upper Canadian Rebellion," also the Letters in the Mackenzie-Rolph Controversy, and a Critique on "The New Story." By John King, Barrister. Toronto: James Murray & Co.

of the development of the Canadian Constitution entertained hopes of seeing something valuable added to our stock of information with regard to that stormy and interesting period. Some new information has indeed been added, and some new light thrown upon dark events; but the promised history cannot be said by its most ardent admirers to justify expectations. It has little of the historical in it. The qualities which we look for as most indispensable in a historian,—freedom from prejudice, impartial and thorough research, and judicial calmness,—Mr. Dent has shown himself to be sadly lacking in, from the beginning to the end of his two bulky volumes on "The Story of the Upper Canadian Rebellion." While a vivid picture is painted in glowing language, increased in attractiveness by the added graces of rhetorical beauties and of abundance and aptness of quotations, and by a smooth and pleasing literary style, that picture cannot claim general recognition as an embodiment of truth. Mr. Dent is in his work more of an advocate than a judge; indeed, he may be said to be almost entirely the former. His apparent object, through the whole of his extensive work, has been the glorification of Dr. John Rolph at the expense of those in connection with whom he must always be considered, and in comparison or contrast with whom he must be measured and his worth estimated. Up to the present time the opinion has prevailed in this Province that the real head of the movement of 1837 was William Lyon Mackenzie, and that it is to him, more than to any one else, that was owing the hastening of the reform of those abuses against which he so long and so persistently fought; and this, notwithstanding an avowal of Mackenzie's many weaknesses—such weaknesses as arose from a too hasty temperament, a lack of calculation of chances, and an impatience in attention to results. On the other hand, the position almost universally given to Dr. Rolph is that of a man seeking throughout his political career the favor of all political parties, and trusted by none. This was the estimate of his co-temporaries, and it has since been but little modified. To do away with it entirely would be a difficult task, involving, it must be said, a falsification of historical records, and an abandonment of recognized truth. But this task Mr. Dent undertakes, and his plan of accomplishing it is to elevate his hero by the vilification of those who fought both with and against him,—if Dr. Rolph can be said to have fought at all,—in the struggle for freedom. The result must be recognized to be a radically false portraiture of Dr. Rolph himself, of Wm. Lyon Mackenzie, of Bishop Strachan, of Chief Justice Robinson, and of almost every prominent figure of the period with which the story deals. It is with the object of pointing out the departures from historical accuracy indulged in for the purpose of carrying out such a plan, that Mr. King has published his pamphlet; and Mr. King has, in our opinion, succeeded in showing that Mr. Dent's book is entitled to little confidence wherever the character of his hero comes upon the stage. This is something accomplished; and, in the interests of historical truth, it was necessary. We need not notice the abundance of personalities and the continual repetitions that appear in the criticism, nor the literary style, which on almost every page sacrifices elegance to force of diction. Such things can be overlooked or forgotten by the student of history, just as we can accept the truth of the writer's answers to Mr. Dent's work, while recognizing what in the latter is of historical or literary value. Mr. King, we cannot but think, errs on one side, as Mr. Dent errs on the other, but not so markedly. Dr. Rolph was not utterly vile nor utterly a hypocrite, nor was Mackenzie at all times, nor at any one time entirely, heroic. There is something to be said on both sides, but Mr. Dent has the hardest side to handle, and, unlike his critic, he has so far found it necessary to belie the facts of history. And it must be remembered, in considering the faults of Mr. King's pamphlet, that it was written under that provocation which deliberate misrepresentation always brings to one in possession of the facts misrepresented. Estimating the "Story" and the "Critique" by the light which they throw upon the times and events dealt with, it is enough to say, for the present, that to read the former without the supplementary correction of the latter, would be, to one forming his opinion with regard to those events and the men who were concerned in them, to accept an imperfect opinion without an available and adequate corrective.

W. F. W. C.

THE VARSITY.

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Contributions when not accepted will be returned if accompanied with a stamp for that purpose.

The view taken by Mr. Lowell on the importance of the social side of life at college is worthy of reproduction. It affords us an opportunity of enforcing a doctrine in which we most firmly believe, and of doing so with the aid of other and more weighty influence than our own. Mr. Lowell says:—

"The friends of university training can do nothing that would forward it more than the founding of post-graduate fellowships and the building and endowing of a hall where the holders of them might be commensals, remembering that when Cardinal Wolsey built Christ Church at Oxford, his first care was the kitchen. Nothing is so great a quickener of the faculties or so likely to prevent their being narrowed to a single groove, as the frequent social commingling of men who are aiming at one goal by different paths."

We would enlarge the scope of Mr. Lowell's plan, and make it include all undergraduates. Students can never really know one another well by meeting in the corridors, or occasionally, at the different societies. They must be brought together in a social way. They must break bread together, and if they be lovers of the nicotian weed, must smoke the pipe of peace together. An Annual Dinner will do much to forward this, but it is more or less formal, besides being but a yearly re-union. Daily social intercourse is really what is wanted. Opportunities for this are not within the reach of the students at present. When the new Convocation Hall is built, the present one might be utilized for a general college dining-hall without much trouble, and with very beneficial results.

Students very often have schemes and plans to talk over which do not come within the province of an open meeting to discuss. An open meeting very often is made into a bear-garden, or degenerates into the control of demagogues and wire-pullers who manipulate it to serve their own purposes. Some place is wanted—in addition to the dining-hall—where schemes and plans and various matters of interest can be mutually discussed without any formality. In other words—Recreation Rooms are what is wanted. Although the Committee of the Literary Society has done much this year to popularize the meetings of the society—and with very gratifying results—still the rooms in Moss Hall are not suitable for the purposes of a Recreation Club such as we would desire to see established. Moreover, the rooms are in constant requisition for meetings, either of students or of committees. There is no other building or set of rooms at or near University College which would be available for the purpose we have indicated. No other alternative is offered than to hire rooms down town. And this could be done with comparatively little expense. It would be no reflection on the authorities of University College to do this; for the College Council has not room enough at its disposal as it is, for the ordinary and necessary exercises of the college. Much less can it provide recreation rooms. To obviate this difficulty, we have a very simple plan to propose. It is this: to hire two or three good-sized rooms, *en suite*, down town; to fit them up comfortably, but inexpensively; to hire a piano; to have the rooms open from 9 a.m. till 12 p.m.; to allow graduates the privileges of the rooms on the same terms as students; to have affairs managed by a committee of students, with a representation of the graduate body on the governing board.

In outlining this scheme we have one grand central idea in view. And this is: To organize the friends of University College into some sort of corporate union. Graduates and undergraduates must

unite in this. Thus, and thus only, as we regard it, can the nucleus of a strong and vigorous Alumni Society be formed. And at the present juncture, it behooves the friends of University College to look this matter seriously in the face; to do something definite; and to do it at once. University College is about to enter into direct competition with Victoria College. This University has a very flourishing Alumni Society, and its graduates and friends stand by one another on all occasions. Convocation is the only bond of union between our graduates; but it is a very different thing from our idea of an Alumni Association, worthy of the name. We would broaden it and make it what it ought to be—a University College Club.

We would interest the students in the matter, so that during their student career they may cultivate a sound University College spirit—a spirit of loyalty and affection for their *Alma Mater*, which will but grow stronger and more powerful for good when they leave her. And by having undergraduates in this association or club, the graduate body would be kept in touch with the student sentiment and the current University thought of the time. Graduates and undergraduates, having one common object in view, would work together with a community of interest and oneness of purpose that would break down existing prejudices, unite separated forces, and carry with it an enthusiasm and power which would be well-nigh irresistible. If this has been our want in the past, it is surely our absolute necessity at the present time.

NEW YORK LETTER.

It has occurred to me you might like to have an account of the performance of the Acharnians, given in this city, on last Friday, by the undergraduates of the University of Pennsylvania, in aid of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens.

The same comedy was acted in Philadelphia last May, but the *personnel* of the company has necessarily changed since then, as many of the actors of that time are no longer undergraduates, so that for many this was the first public performance.

The audience was a most "brilliant" one, as the reporters say; all the professors of the colleges of New York and adjoining States, the artists and literary men of the neighbourhood, the most conspicuous politicians and plutocrats, and the wives and daughters of all. Fifty ladies of this city appear as patronesses, or, as they are called on the programme (a hotch-potch of Greek and English), *αι οννεργατιδες του εργου*.

Naturally, few cared to follow more of the play than the meagre pantomime suggested, but fewer still were willing to let it appear, and eagerly caught at any stirring of applause as a means of indicating that all was clear and appreciated. As the Academy of Music was plentifully sprinkled with old graduates and undergraduates not actually engaged, who naturally and unconsciously played the part of *claqueurs*, the applause was frequent and noisy. To all appearance the vast audience was enjoying itself thoroughly, though it must have been a tremendous struggle for two-thirds of it to keep awake.

For nothing could be drearier than the acting. The voices, manners, pronunciation, were more like those of the tragedian seen at Drury Lane by the Rev. Micah Sows than anything else.

For this the teachers of Greek at the University of Pennsylvania, I should say, were chiefly responsible; for the method of pronunciation was such as to make acting, fire, humour, or feeling of any kind impracticable. This method (which, by the way, one of the New York papers declares to have met with the approval of all the professors present) seems to be, to pronounce every syllable as if it was a distinct word, and to make every syllable as long as possible. Accordingly, there appears no accent, and all vowels have the same quantity (which must be a great relief to the student. Even ϵ and η , o and ω are sounded alike. Thus, *ἀγορά* becomes *aw-go-raw*. This, as must be manifest, is fatal to expression. For example, the groomsmen comes rushing in, deeply anxious to procure a few days' peace for his friend's honeymoon, and impertunes the happy possessor of a private truce thus (v. 1048): "Dee-ky-oh-pow-lee; Dee-ky-oh-pow-lee." Dikaiopolis might have been out of sight before the third syllable was reached.

To make matters worse, most of the performers had high and more or less nasal voices, which never varied a tone. The worst example was Dikaiopolis himself. This young gentleman knew his prodigiously long part admirably; but apparently had not the slightest conception of the character he represented. Instead of a middle-aged father of grown daughters, he appeared as a boy of seventeen; and, beyond an occasional waving of an arm, did nothing but drawl his weary syllables for two hours, as if he were calling off numbers in a bank. When it is said that it seemed never to have occurred to him that there was any humour or fun

in the play, it is not making an exception of him : for the same may be said of all the actors except the Magician. The informer Nikarchus, too, was mildly amusing. But perhaps the most singular failure to appreciate his *role* was that of the gentleman who played Lamachus. In his armour he was more a lay-figure than a braggadocio ; and so little attention did he give to the business of acting, that when Dikaiopolis implores him to lay down his shield—
(*παράβες νυν ὑπέρτατον ἀντήν ἐμοί ;*)

he answers solemnly,
κέῖται,

but continues to hold it on his arm and tight against his breast. The chorus was excellent. I presume the music was not in the smallest degree like Greek music, but considering the difficulty of writing music for the erratic metres of a Greek chorus, Prof. Clarke (of the Univ. of Penn.) seems to me (a layman) to have done very well. The music of the overture, which contained most of the themes which reappeared in the choruses, were quite Wagnerian. The orchestra was very full (50 pieces) : and the chorus consisted of fifty men on the stage, and fifty alongside the orchestra disguised in swallow-tails. The singing was done with vigor and spirit and a sense of fun.

The stage was probably as nearly like a Greek stage as it could be made at the Academy ; and it would be sheer carping to find fault with it. The distinctively modern device of rolling away the front of Euripides's house, though abused in the papers, answered very well ; and I fancy Aristophanes would have thought it an improvement on his plan of having the poet wheeled out in his chair (v. 408).

The libretto in the hands of the audience was essentially Frere's translation (in verse). Of course, the puns were utterly lost ; and there was not a note to shew so much as where they ought to be. With the pronunciation adopted, many were lost even in the Greek ; *φῆναξ* (v. 89) was pronounced *fay-nawks*, which had no suggestion of *φῶνιξ*, which it was probably intended to recall.

W. A. S.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The Editors are not responsible for the opinions of correspondents. No notice will be taken of unsigned contributions.

AN ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

To the Editors of THE VARSITY.

SIRS,—I took advantage of the enthusiastic meeting held at Oulcott's, on Monday, 22nd, on the conclusion of the cross-country race, to bring forward a scheme for an Association, the need of which has long been felt at University College. From the manner in which the proposal was received, I feel encouraged to present it to a larger circle, and therefore do so through your columns, restating at the same time a few arguments in its favour. Our friends at McGill have such an Association, the main features of which I have reproduced below. Their annual sports are always looked forward to as one of the most interesting events of the season in Montreal. When their foot-ball club visited Queen's on Nov. 6, they were granted \$150 to assist in defraying their expenses. Their hockey club stood first in the tournament held during the last carnival. Ottawa College Athletic Association is unrivalled by any College Association in Canada. Their foot-ball club is sufficiently well-known here to need no remarks. Every winter their snow-shoe club holds very successful races. Owing to the length of their terms they can have their sports in the spring. The records then made would do credit to any sporting meeting. Coming to our own College, I can safely say, that never, since I have been here at any rate, have sports boomed as they did this year. The Rugby team has made 229 points to 24, has played eight games and been beaten only once. The Association team has not been beaten at all. The sports were unanimously voted a grand success, and the result of the cross-country race is too recent to need any remark. It might be doubted whether an athletic association could improve upon this. Even so, I feel that such a successful year should be commemorated in some way. The individual events may be forgotten, but the establishing of an Athletic Association, "a monument more lasting than brass," would always recall the part we took in the sports of '86-'87. Besides, every club has its "off" season. An Athletic Association, by binding the students closer together, and making the officers of the different clubs better acquainted with the capabilities of their fellows, would ward off the evil day, and if the evil day did come, would diminish its effects. Many of us abandon sports on the approach of frost ; I would therefore propose to establish a Hockey Club. We might have a friendly game each year with McGill, in this as well as in foot-ball. I intend to ask the secretary of the sports committee to call a meeting as soon as convenient for the purpose of founding this Athletic Association. In order to bring discussion to a point I will

bring forward the following draft of a Constitution. It is no doubt open to improvement, and I hope that any amendments which may be moved will be made in the same spirit in which I offer this scheme, *i.e.*, to foster and improve sport around University College.

Thanking you for the space on which I have trespassed, I remain, yours sincerely,
JOHN S. MACLEAN.

CONSTITUTION.

ART. I.—NAME.—This association shall be called the University College Athletic Association.

ART. II.—CLUBS.—It shall comprise the following clubs—Rugby Football Club, Association Football Club, Cricket Club, and Hockey Club.

ART. III.—MEMBERSHIP.—§1. The Association shall be open for membership to all undergraduates and students in University College and the School of Practical Science. §2. Payment of three (3) dollars constitutes honorary membership for one year. §3. Payment of ten (10) dollars constitutes life membership. §4. Only ordinary members shall be entitled to vote or shall be eligible for office.

ART. IV.—OFFICERS.—There shall be an Honorary President, President, Secretary, Treasurer, and a committee of four (4) from each year, *i.e.*, one from each year representing each club*, who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, which shall be held on such a day in December as the Committee may choose.

ART. V.—FIELD MEETING.—The Association shall hold a Field Meeting annually in October. Other meetings may be held at the discretion of the Committee.

ART. VI.—GYMNASIUM.—The Association shall have full control of the gymnasium.

ART. VII.—DUES.—The annual subscription for ordinary members shall be two (2) dollars, admitting to membership in all clubs and to all the privileges of the Association.

BY-LAWS.

To regulate the business of the Association.

*The first, second, and third years of the School of Science might rank with the same years of University College as regards the Committee. Or three might be added from the School, and if the Committee is then considered too large the Hockey Club representatives might be dropped.

COLLEGE MUSIC.

To the Editors of THE VARSITY.

SIRS,—A question always asked at the beginning of the College year by the members of the Glee Club is, "What shall we sing?" One is led to think the question is too often answered without much consideration, but, however that may be, the reply that has been given of late years is unmistakably in favour of high class music. In this line much faithful work, deservedly earning the liberal support of the Literary Society and the friends of the Club, has been done in the past. The question is not whether this is the legitimate answer, but whether this is the full answer to be given. An ideal that admits of reasonable attainment cannot be placed too high, and essentially so in song ; yet just here a mistake is apt to be made that we should guard against. Our ideal should be excellence of College singing rather than concert work proper. This view seems the more tenable when we remember that faithful interpretations of difficult music are not to be looked for in a chorus composed for the greater part of untrained voices. In what does this excellence consist? First, in good part singing—care being taken to choose selections well within the powers of the Club—not beyond them, as too often happens—on the principle that it is better to sing simple songs well than difficult ones badly or indifferently. Second, in good general singing of songs distinctive of real student life, songs that have the ring and charm of good-fellowship. In this respect we are greatly lacking. Part singing, affording as it does opportunities for special culture, is rightly given the prominence. But in a larger sense the advantages of general singing are equally worthy of attention. Not a few whose inclinations and possibly whose abilities would never lead them to devote their time to the study of classical music would gladly avail themselves of any opportunity of learning a number of good College songs.

Should the present energetic management of the Club deem it wise to devote more attention to the singing of College songs, they will command the increased support and goodwill of a large number of undergraduates and graduates who are in harmony with the views here expressed.

M. S. MERCER.

ROUND THE TABLE.

At the last meeting of the TABLE the visitor's chair was occupied by an early-text enthusiast who soon got astride of his hobby and ran on at a great rate about the loss our language has sustained. When I saw how the conversation was trending I kept my eye on our young limb of the law, whom I had often heard groaning over the barbarous jaw-breakers to be found in Blackstone, *et al.* For some time he sat with all patience consuming his own soul. At last he broke out. "It's all very well for you to admire the language of Chaucer and Spenser, so apt for the poet's use by virtue of its liquidity and picturesqueness. I am not going to deny that. But it is a little too much to ask a lawyer to worship at your musty old shrine." The early-text enthusiast looked surprised, and seemed to ask why. "Why? we are pestered every day with those hideous conglomerates of the speech you profess to admire so hugely;" and by way of illustration, he ran over in the most guttural tone imaginable:—Mundbriche, Feardwite, Litwite, Blodwite, Miskening, Frithsoke, Hamsokne, Forstal, Forhange, Theifephang, Hangwite, Frithbrich, Utlepe, Infongenthef, Dupbriche.

* * *

"There is no need for any Jeremiad over the supposed loss to our modern speech," he continued, our visitor seeming "all abroad" after the charge made upon him; "the poets of to-day are as keen as ever poets were for appropriate language to interpret their glowing moods. All of permanent value, that is, all manageable words, phrases, or combinations, are eagerly, sometimes so eagerly as to give the impression of ostentation, used to deck the poetic thought. Farther than this you cannot hope for anything, even from an act of Parliament. You might as well hope to cause the warm heart's blood to pulse once more through a mummy, as to give to obsolete words the stamp of the current tongue."

* * *

The practical problem of "why we fight" has been solved for us in two ways, and if the question why the present civilization makes war is not quite answered by the resolution that to fight is natural, it is not the less interesting in tracing the influence of the environment on the moral and physical instincts. Owen Meredith must have had the poet's prophetic soul when he told us:—

"Man is born on a battle-field round him to rend,
Or resist, the dread powers he displaces attend,
By the cradle which Nature, amidst the stern shocks
That have shattered creation, and shaken it, rocks.
That have shattered creation, and shaken it, rocks.
He leaps with a wail into being; and lo!
His own mother, fierce nature herself, is his foe.
Her whirlwinds are roused into wrath o'er his head;
'Neath his feet roll her earthquakes: her solitudes spread
To daunt him; her forces dispute his command;
Her snows fall to freeze him; her suns burn to brand;
Her seas yawn to engulf him; her rocks rise to crush;
And the lion and leopard, allied, lurk to rush
On their startled invader."

"Anon,
Still impelled by necessity hungrily on,
He conquers the realms of his own self-reliance,
And the last cry of fear wakes the first of defiance."

But modern war is not defensible on any economic principle except where it opens up new avenues for commerce. On moral ground it has perhaps a standing, for are we not told by a Professor of Moral Philosophy at Cambridge, that every nation should be an armed nation, not because it regards any other with hostility, not because it imagines that any other has an interest in assailing it, but because its own soil, its own language, its own laws, its own government, are given to it, and are beyond all measure precious to it.

And indeed so long as love of freedom, and even love of gain, are motive powers with mankind, so long will war continue. Even those who have endeavoured to ascertain with cold logic whether there can be suggested an adequate substitute for the horrors of the battle-field, are cautious in their predictions and admit that there is little to suggest the hope of their speedy abolition. While nations are distinct there is no adequate tribunal to decide their respective rights. Each people regard their own interests as supreme, and while they are strong enough to maintain them it is idle to suppose that they will abandon them at the bidding of any intervention, however impartial. The great past furnishes a reason for the greater future, and while the selfish to-day is gilded by the shining of the light of other days, no nation of men will forego their heritage.

* * *

But "why we make war" admits of a more prosaic answer. If we are to live as a people in security and peace, we must be prepared to protect our goods like the strong man and be armed. And we must make our force felt; our end is not gained if, when our land is threatened, we kill a hundred thousand of men. If we could blind them all for a time, or lock them up, it would do as well. The end is to put what Kinglake would delight to call

"stress" on them. A vast squadron anchored off a defenceless village needs not to fire a shot in order to rescue a prisoner. Its presence and its potential power are enough. If we can paralyze government and put in jeopardy property, our end is gained. The reason war is made is not to kill but to gain such a hold on the enemy's country that their government, laws, freedom, and even daily bread, are at our command. If we cannot do that without encountering resistance, those who withstand us must be thrust out of the way. Our war establishment is but a method of getting our foe by the throat, but any other way, if equally effective, will do as well. Unfortunately, where there is no controlling force the last resort becomes the only one, and we fight because we are resisted. The more effective we make our forces, the more dreaded our armament, the greater the stress of our power is. If its presence induces an enemy to retire we have gained a position, and it is only when that dread disappears that it is necessary to demonstrate by actual war our superiority and right to be obeyed. Until the pride of race and the love of country are extinct, and until the universal brotherhood of man has made us all mere units without a single noble aspiration, "mere parts of a crowd," the wished-for but debilitating arbitration will not prosper among us.

* * *

After all, there is a great deal of jugglery in writing. It is like the Japanese who keeps such a wonderful number of coloured balls playing about his head, or the other Japanese, with brown, parchment-like skin, whose deftness and skill in managing all those gleaming daggers we admire so much. Your *prosateur* must not be lost sight of for a moment; and your poet must, in addition, look well to his rhyme, to say nothing of his reason. We, the public, applaud the marvellously dexterous tumbling.

It struck me that this would be a rather apt way in which to lead up to what I have to say of transitions. A nicely managed transition I enjoy like a true epicure; and as I have had a very pleasant little time with myself this afternoon over one of Howells, I think it but right that I should share with you.

* * *

In his *Panforte di Siena* he had been writing for many pages of St. Catharine, having come upon the house where she was born, which is still standing, in the "Ward of the Goose." Passing at length from St. Catharine, he speaks of other noted personages who had lived in this same ward; among them of the brave archbishop of Siena, Ascanio Piccolomini, "who had the heart to defy the Inquisition, and welcome Galileo to the protection of an inviolable roof." And he comes immediately to the great cathedral thus:

"It is so little way off from Fonte Branda and St. Catharine's house that I do not know but that the great cathedral of Siena may also be in the 'Ward of the Goose'; but I confess that I did not think of this when I stood before that wondrous work."

* * *

I think this a very clever transition. It is like leading one carefully over the slippery, trembling fallen tree that serves to bridge a stream, and then showing one, with a smile and a tap on the shoulder, that the tree has fallen from its place ere one's last foot-step. You turn a corner, heedless and suspecting nothing, and the cathedral is before you; but you are vaguely conscious that the laugh is against you somehow. What follows is in Howells' finest style.

* * *

The sanctum, of course, has its own contributors' club, the roster of which you must notice as soon as you enter, for it is burnt into the rough old mantel where the hearth-fire is always gleaming hospitably. But besides, set snugly in niches or relieving the dark papering, are likenesses of the great stars in the literary firmament whose lives and works enter largely into our converse. Not least, however, do we value the plates of journalists who under various skies have done men's work in their chosen sphere. As might be expected, for the literary guild is the most cosmopolitan of all, great journalists look like men of the world, in the best sense of that much abused term. Especially is this to be remarked in the latest acquisition—a fine plate of French journalists (presented by Root & Tinker, of New York). Even in the case of About and the fire-eating Cassignac it would be difficult for the phrenologist to declare off-hand their nationality. It is quite apparent, however, even to those of us who are not skilled in that occult science, that in France, as elsewhere, successful newspaper men are characterized by great tenacity and earnestness.

* * *

"When one thinks of Lord Lonsdale (a nice pious sort of young man to have forty-two church livings in his gift!), and the other distinguished members of the peerage, owing to whose exertions the cable news every morning is so—well, really *is*, you know—"

At this point the ingenious man met with several interruptions. "Oh, as to the rest of the nobility," he went on, "the greater part never give themselves any trouble in the world, *parce qu'ils se sont donnés la peine de naître*"—his accent is faultless, of the School of Stratford atte Bowe—and to call them 'Lords' has always seemed to me singularly fitting; the word being derived, I understand, from the Anglo-Saxon *hloford*, which is by interpretation 'a loafer.'"

UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE NEWS.

All reports from Societies must reach us by noon on Thursday to ensure insertion.

The following notice appears on the board: "Dirk found. Can be obtained upon describing it to the janitor." A dirk!!!

In view of the approaching annual dinner, a practice of college songs was held in Moss Hall, on Monday afternoon. Another rehearsal on Friday afternoon in west end lecture room.

COMING EVENTS.—The Annual Dinner on the 9th; the Public Debate on the 10th; "K" Company concert on the 14th; Prof. Haslam's concert—Toronto Vocal Society—on the 20th prox.

The members of "K" Company propose to give a concert in Convocation Hall, on Wednesday evening, the 14th inst. The Glee Club and several city amateurs will assist. The proceeds will be devoted to the furnishing of the Company Armoury. Tickets, 50 cents.

The subjects for Prize Composition, 1887, are now posted and may be ascertained on reference to the bulletin board. The subject for English verse is: "The Jubilee of Queen Victoria"; that for English prose: "Capital and Labour in their relation to the State and to the Individual." The compositions must be forwarded by post to the Registrar on or before the 1st of May, 1887.

It has frequently happened of late that gentlemen appointed to read essays before the Literary Society have absented themselves from the particular meetings at which they were expected to appear. This is not as it ought to be. Does the fault lie with the committee in not notifying the gentlemen of their appointments, or with the gentlemen themselves in not reading the notices posted on the bulletin board? It is to be hoped the difficulty may be obviated in some way or another.

Mr. J. E. Jones addressed the Thursday evening meeting this week on the subject "Our Refuge and Strength," Ps. 46: 1. The meeting was of a very interesting character. Dr. Kellogg has consented to address the missionary concert on Tuesday at half-past 4. This gentleman is a distinguished oriental scholar and author. He has been a missionary in India for several years. He resigned a professorship in Alleghany College in order to come to this city. Something more than ordinary is expected.

The Mathematical and Physical Society held its regular meeting on Tuesday. Mr. W. G. Loudon, B.A., opened the programme with a paper on the Gas Engine. He illustrated his subject by diagrams and by a machine in motion. The President, Mr. T. Mulvey, B.A., gave some interesting experiments in acoustics. A paper on Newton was then read by Mr. H. R. Moore. Messrs. Duff, Bowerman, Loudon, Rosebrugh, Sparling, and Mulvey took part in the discussion. Problems were solved by Messrs. McGowan, Moore and Martin. A communication from the secretary of the Ottawa Mathematical Society was read. Steps will be taken to procure some measure of union between the two societies. Mr. Sparling was appointed to represent the society at the dinner. Mr. Bowerman will read a paper at the next meeting, when the subject of "Leibnitz" will be discussed. An interesting meeting is expected.

The first public meeting of the Knox College Missionary Society was held on Friday, the 26th of November, Mr. J. K. Macdonald in the chair. The first thing on the programme was an address by the President, J. McGillivray, M.A., on "College Interest in Missions." The next item was the anthem, "I Will Lift up Mine Eyes," by the College choir. R. J. M. Glassford read a report entitled "Mission Work among the Lumbermen." Messrs. Gordon, Nichol, McLeod and Hamilton then sang a quartette, "The Sabbath Call." W. S. McKenzie, B.A., who was for a couple of years in the North-west at Fort McLeod, read a paper on "Mission Work among Western Men." Rev. P. Wright, B.D., closed the programme with a stirring address.—Professor Neff has resumed his class in elocution.—Mr. Cringhan has started his Tonic-Sol-Fa class again, and it is getting along very well.

Saturday last the second Association football team visited Bradford, a small town up the Northern, and in lieu of the first team played the Bradford eleven a friendly match. The Varsity men won the toss and chose to kick down hill with the wind, but failed to score, though shot after shot was peppered into their opponents' goal. In second half, as they had to play upon a high hill, dead in the wind's eye, to score seemed an utter impossibility. The home team though favoured by the wind, the slope of the ground and an extension of time in the second half, also failed to score. The second team enjoyed the outing. The Bradford men are hospitable,

and treated their visitors with all kindness. They do think, however, that if the match were repeated, Varsity's second would be forced to swallow a defeat. The members of the Varsity team were—goal, J. C. Stuart; defence, Ball, Edgar, Harry Senkler and Jamieson; forwards, Gibson, J. Senkler, B. Aikins, T. Elliot, Cook and Laflamme.

DINNER NOTES.—The Committee have decided to hold the annual dinner in Convocation Hall, at 7:30, on Thursday, Dec. 9th. Contrary to a hastily-formed impression expressed in our last number, the dinner is to be a hot one; and there is now every indication that, despite the former differences of opinion, the undergraduates will all unite to make the affair a great and memorable success.—The Senate chamber will be used as a reception room.—The "Witches' Kitchen" will be forgotten for the time, and Mr. VanderSmitsen's lecture-room will give forth something more toothsome than German roots.—The gallery is reserved for ladies and other friends; no undergraduate need apply.—No toasts for Doctors, Lawyers, or Ministers; a strictly collegiate list.—In order that the dinner may be as informal as possible, and have as academic a character as possible, students are especially requested not to come in full dress, but to wear the College gown.—Among the possibilities: that the ladies will sit down to dinner with the other students. Among the certainties: that Dr. Wilson has written to the Committee, insisting that no liquor shall be introduced.—Some new and original songs will be produced.

Even those not in the secret couldn't help observing that something was on the tapis last Friday. The customary annual hazing, in fact, was held as an afterpiece to the ordinary meeting of the Literary Society. The freshmen interested were kept in the dark till the very last moment. The subjects were taken as met and kept in a handy spot under the care of sturdy guardians, the last not being captured before the meeting broke up. Out of deference to the College authorities, the scene of the farce was not laid in the vaults or in any of the College buildings, but on the sward in front of the main tower. The honourable court consisted of two judges, who had rather a cold time of it. The deliberations of the jury were very short and the speeches of the counsel pointed and pithy, the sentences mild and quickly carried out. The feature of the evening was the desperate but unsuccessful efforts of one misguided freshman to escape. The parental tenderness of the seniors prevented even the most guilty of the culprits from being roughly handled. In this respect, indeed, there was a distinct departure from the mode of procedure of previous sittings of the court. The actions brought against the defendants were conducted throughout in an entirely unobjectionable manner.

The third regular meeting of the Natural Science Association was held in Dr. Pike's lecture room in the School of Practical Science, on Thursday, Nov. 25th, the President in the chair. Six gentlemen proposed for membership at the last meeting were declared elected, and Mr. Babington was nominated as an honorary member. The programme was then taken up, the first paper being by Mr. A. B. MacCallum, B.A., on "Cross fertilization." This was illustrated by large blackboard drawings, and at its close Prof. R. R. Wright gave an account of some recent work on a Brazilian armadillo. After an interesting discussion Mr. H. Wood, B.A., read his paper on a "Classification of naturally occurring sulphides," pointing out the advantages of an arrangement based on chemical composition, and tracing many instances of connection between chemical composition and physical characters. Mr. F. J. Wait then read an account of the life and work of John Dalton, sketching the condition of science before and after the great chemist's time, and relating many entertaining anecdotes of his personal history. A ballot was then held and the scrutineers declared Mr. Monroe elected to the office of second year representative on the general committee. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 16th, when papers will be read by Dr. Ellis and Mr. A. Acheson, B.A.

The regular meeting of the Historical and Political Science Association was held in McMillan's Hall, Dec. 1st, at 4.15 p.m., President in the chair. After the election of several candidates for membership, and other business, the meeting was addressed by Messrs. Harrison and Grant on "Money, with special reference to the Bi-metallic controversy." These gentlemen showed that money must have an intrinsic value, and hence the necessity that paper currency should have a special basis, and also indicated the difficulty of arriving at a solution of the question of Bi-metallism, and its importance especially to England and the United States. The question arises through the relative appreciation and depreciation of gold and silver and the difficulty of carrying on exchange between two countries using different metals; there has been a proposal to form an international bi-metallic currency by making both silver and gold legal tender, and fixing their relative values by law; but it is urged that the depreciation of one of the metals would lead all debtors to use, as far as possible, that coin in payment of debts; hence the other would flow out of the country. Also that it is no more possible for government to fix by law the value of gold or silver than any other commodity. The meetings are becoming very

interesting and the attendance is increasing. The next meeting (Dec. 8th) will be addressed by Mr. Alfred Jury, on "Convict Labor in competition with Free Labor."

The Modern Language Club met on Monday, as usual, in the Y.M.C.A. building, and listened to a very interesting and instructive address by Mr. William Houston, M.A., on the Pedagogical Treatment of English. The subject was introduced by a few general remarks on English, in the course of which the value of that branch as a means of mental culture was shown to be quite equal to that of Classics, though the speaker took care to say he had no wish to depreciate the study of Greek and Latin. There were four points taken up—Composition, Literature, Grammar (confined to Etymology and Prosody), and Philology. With reference to the first of these, the speaker said that a child practises composition as soon as it begins to speak, and should receive its first teaching then. This teaching should be *corrective*. Under the second, reading of texts themselves was advocated, with reference only to such side-work as serves to make the meaning clear. It was also said that a book should be read *as a whole* at first, the particular parts being taken up afterwards. Under the third heading, the members were informed that they had begun at the wrong place to study grammar, taking up Etymology first instead of Prosody. Under the fourth, the tracing of words to their roots, and not of roots to their present forms, was insisted upon, as was also the study of dialectic writings as opposed to works on philology. A short discussion followed, in which excessive practice of parsing was condemned, and the change in setting English papers approved of. The next meeting will be devoted to the study of Gautier's works, when essays will be read by Messrs. Gibbard and Jeffrey.

Dr. A. H. Newman, Prof. in Historical Theology, McMaster Hall, has been invited by Prof. Philip Schaff, D.D., LL.D., of New York, to edit St. Augustine's Anti-Manichæan treatises, with a revised translation, notes, and an introduction on the Manichæan Heresy for the "Post Nicene Christian Library," of which Dr. Schaff is the general editor. Dr. Schaff has assigned the various parts of the works of the Greek and Latin Fathers to be included in the "Library" to leading patriotic scholars on this continent and in Great Britain. The work promises to be one of great value and interest.—Dr. MacVicar has recently returned from Baltimore, Ind., where he was in attendance at the fifth annual session of the Baptist Congress, assembled for the purpose of discussing questions of the day. The paper contributed by Dr. MacVicar, and afterwards discussed, was on "Popular indifference to religion."—Pastor Joshua Denovan's Friday afternoon lectures on Romans, in the Mission Hall, College street, are in such favour amongst the students as to attract them *en masse*.—The Rev. M. B. Parent, B.A., is stopping at the Hall while engaged in canvassing the Baptists of the city in the interest of "La Grande Ligne," their mission school amongst the French Catholics of Quebec. Mr. Parent will be interesting to the members of the Varsity Glee Club as the author of "Emotions et Conseils" in the McGill College Song Book.—On Monday evening Mrs. MacVicar entertained the faculty, students and lady friends from the city at an informal reception held in her rooms in the Hall. The Hon. Senator and Mrs. McMaster were also present. The evening was most enjoyable.

On Friday evening, Nov. 26th, the Literary and Scientific Society held its seventh regular meeting. On recommendation of the general committee it was decided to hold a public debate on the evening of Dec. 10th. Mr. W. A. Bradley was nominated to fill the vacancy in the committee of third year councillor caused by the resignation of Mr. J. N. Elliott. There being no other nomination, Mr. Bradley was declared elected. The literary programme was as follows:—Songs by Messrs. Fowell and Garvin, both of which were encored; a humorous reading by Mr. F. B. Hodgins, also deservedly encored. Then followed the debate, the subject of which was:—*Resolved*, That the Pass Course, as laid down in the University Curriculum, affords a better training for practical life than any single Honour Course. Mr. E. Bayley was the first speaker, and in his usual conversational style brought forward several pithy arguments for the affirmative. Mr. Laflamme, the leader of the negative, occupied his ten minutes in a fluent and forcible speech. His style, however, might be characterized as a little too didactic. Mr. G. B. McClean, of the first year, followed with his maiden speech in support of the affirmative. We venture to prophesy that, as he acquires confidence, he will become an effective speaker. Mr. T. C. DesBarres closed the debate for the negative, confidently upholding the superior advantages of an honour course. Mr. J. O. Miller, presiding in the absence of the President, after presenting clearly all the arguments brought forward, submitted the question to the audience, who decided in favour of the negative.—The following appointments were made for the public debate:—Reader, Mr. T. J. Parr; essayist, Mr. W. J. Healy; speakers, Messrs. Sparling, Cody, Laflamme and Talbot. During these proceedings M. S. Mercer, B.A., who happened to be present, was called on for a song.—A feature of the evening was

the presentation of a medal to Mr. G. B. McClean, who took first place in the recent cross-country races.

The following books have been received into the library since Oct. 1st:—

Goethe, J. W., *Faust*—translated by Bayard Taylor.
The Railways and the Republic, Hudson, jr.
Farrar, F. W., *Sermons and Addresses in America*.
Hauff, Wm., *Das Kalte Herz*—Ed. Vander Smissen.
Payne, Joseph, *Lectures on Science and Art of Education, &c.*
Youmans, E. L., *Culture Demanded by Modern Life*.
Latham, H., *The Action of Examinations, &c.*
Behrens, J. W., *The Microscope in Botany*.
Burnside, (W.S.) and Panton, (A.W.) *Theory of Equations*.
Hamerton, P. G., *The Intellectual Life*.
Kay, David, *Education and Educators*.
Zeitschrift für Wissenschaftliche Zoologie.
Korting, G., *Encyklopædie, Philology*.
Elze, K., *Notes on Elizabethan Dramatists*.
Bancroft, H. H., *Works*.
Year-Book of Facts, 1839-'55.
Dudley, W. R., *Cayuga Flora*.
Journal of Society of Arts.
English Cyclopædia, Ed Chas. Knight.
Morley, Hy., *Shorter Eng. Poems*.
" " *Eng. Plays*.
" " *Eng. Religion*.
Crawford, O., *Comic Dramatists*.
Poems on State Affairs.
McCurdy, J. F., *Aryo Semitic Speech*.
Suckling, Sir John, *Poems, Plays, &c.*
Green, Hy., *Shakespeare and the Emblem Writers*.
Bacon, Delia, *Philosophy of the Plays of Shakespeare*.
Brathwaite, R. A., *Strappado for the Diuell*.
Macoun, Jno., *Manitoba and the Great North-West*.
Ontario County Gazetteer and Canadian Cyclopædia.
Malone, Edw., *Life*, by Sir Jas. Prior.
Southesk, Earl of—*Saskatchewan and Rocky Mountains*.
Macfie, M., *Vancouver Island and British Columbia*.
Chappell, E., *Voyage to Newfoundland*.
Pedley, C., *History of Newfoundland*.
Ellis, Hy., *Voyage to Hudson's Bay*.
Kotzebel, *Voyage of Discovery—South Sea and Behring's Straits*.
Hooper, W. H., *Tents of the Tuoki*.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE VARSITY is conducted by undergraduates of the University of Toronto, and will appear every Saturday of the academic year, It aims at being the exponent of the views of the University public, and will always seek the highest interests of our University. The Literary Department will, as heretofore, be a main feature. In the present issue appears the fourth of a series of articles on the University of Toronto. The news columns are full and accurate, containing reports of all meetings of interest to its readers. A special holiday number will be issued during Christmas week.

CONTENTS OF THE PRESENT NUMBER.

Mountain Voices. J. H. MOSS.
The University of Toronto. IV. VIDI.
A Ballade of the Stirrup-Cup. W. J. H.
Shakespeare and Sophocles. T. A. GIBSON.
Vox Humana. B. Our National Literature. JOHN B. PYKE.
Mr. John King's "Other Side of the Story." W. F. W. C.
Topics of the Hour.
New York Letter. W. A. S.
Communications.
An Athletic Association. JOHN S. MACLEAN.
College Music. M. S. MERCER.
Round the Table.
University and College News.
Di-Varsities, &c., &c.



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THE MUSE AND THE MUSIC.

The poet had just got his muse focussed down upon a cosmetic "ad." He had written :

"Oh, damask cheek and throat of snow,
Playground of soft emotion,
Remember, please, how much you owe
To Jink's Cucumber Lotion.

The lurking dimples play—"

Three sons of sunny Italy in the street below having commenced to filter "Sweet Violets" through two violins and a harp, the muse at once broke her gait.

"The-e lurking dimps
Play de-de-de-de-de—"

The poet groaned and would have torn his hair ; but alas ! he had lost it all through using a bottle of Bulgarian Hair Restorer that he had been forced to take in part payment for an advertising puff.

"Oh-h, dimpling chin,
And brow where the sunlight dances,
Lay Jink's Lotion in
And—"

But at this point the political refugees down below shifted off to the "Mocking Bird," and the muse slowed down again.

"I'm singing now of Lotion,
Jink's Lotion,
Face Lotion,
And you haven't any notion
How it purifies and beautifies the skin.
'Tis but fifty cents a bottle,
Large bottle—"

Suddenly the music stopped, and the poet breathed a large sigh—one of the largest sighs—of relief, and began to work his Muse back to her original pace :

"Oh, damask cheek and throat of snow—'
when the artists in the street below, who had only paused to pass around the hat, began
"The Devil's Dream."

"Oh, dam—"

That was as far as the poet got

One of the college papers tells a story of President Hopkins. The President, meeting on a car a student whose character for sobriety was not good, and whose appearance was an evidence of a recent debauch, approached him and solemnly and reproachfully said, "Been on a drunk." "So have I," was the immediate reply.

A Young Poet, who was once so Impecunious that he was Reduced to the Extremity of Living in a Garret, and Mending what Clothes he had with Wire, was one day Met by an Old Gentleman who was so Pleased with the Legend of his Sufferings, that he became his Benefactor on the Spot. Several years later, when the Poet was out of the Woods, he Published, at his own Expense, a Volume of his Poems, and sent a Copy to his Benefactor, who upon this Proof of the Poet's Ingratitude, Cut him Forever.

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Sheridan once succeeded admirably in entrapping a noisy member who was in the habit of interrupting every speaker with cries of "Hear! hear!" Richard Brinsley took an opportunity to allude to a well-known political character of the time, whom he represented as a person who wished to play the rogue, but had only sense enough to play the fool. "Where," exclaimed Sheridan, in continuation and with great emphasis—"where shall we find a more foolish knave or a more knavish fool than this?" "Here! here!" was instantly bellowed from the accustomed bench. The wicked wit bowed, thanked the gentleman for his ready reply to the question, and sat down, amid convulsions of laughter from all but the unfortunate subject.

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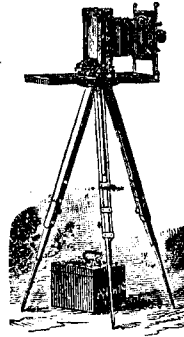
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