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# THE VARSITY

*A Weekly Journal of Literature, University Thought and Events.*

VOL. XI.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, JANUARY 19, 1892.

No. 12.

## Editorial Comments.



CONVERSAZIONE for this year is a nonentity. Some of its chief advocates are greatly disappointed over the failure of their object, but taking all matters into consideration we deem it wise on the part of the trustees to give their decision as they did. For once we are in ac-

cord with the President's opinion. Still, we cannot condone his actions prior to giving his decision which led the prime movers on until the realization of their object seemed quite attainable. Conversations in the past have been gay affairs—brilliant and successful in the extreme—which fact warranted all the energies bestowed on the scheme by its chief advocates. The main argument against its being held this year was the unfitness of the main building, which, although sufficiently far advanced towards completion to be used for college purposes, is not in a suitable condition for such a grand society event. When the grand old building, whose architectural beauty is envied by all our sister institutions, is pronounced by the architect as complete in all its parts, then let us have such a grand re-opening as will outshine all former gala-days in the history of our college. Let us have a preëminently brilliant affair or none at all. We were divided on the question this year, we will be united next, and when the re-opening does take place there will be no half-hearted response from any body of students, but all will enter into the celebration with perfect unanimity. A great many have been dissatisfied with the decision of the trustees, but we would ask these to compound their interest for a similar event next year and make it truly a *red-letter day* in the history of the University of Toronto.

The lack of real progress made during the term in the department of mineralogy and geology has been of such a nature as to justify us in again bringing up the problem which has for so long vexed Faculty and students alike. For we are compelled to declare that full justice has been done neither to the course nor to those pursuing it, nor, in short, even to the instructors. We would not wish to impute to such a one as Prof. Chapman even the slightest hint of a lack of zeal; for every one, at all acquainted with his efforts in behalf of the department, must own them to have been most untiring and persevering.

Practical instruction has not been carried on to the extent required for a class making a specialty of such work: hardly even to the extent which was previously required of students in the Natural Science Course. Although lectures may be delivered, it is certain that the place of practical instruction cannot be filled by any other branch, however thorough, and most of all in a course which is expected to fit the student for a profession which shall be eminently practical.

But such practice is only attainable in a properly-

equipped laboratory—and such we have not. Much as we would like to see a commodious building, there is but little doubt that Professor and students would be content, in the absence of better, with the present cramped quarters, if properly or thoroughly equipped. But the equipment, if equipment it may be called, is wholly inadequate. If this is doubted, consider the subject of Assaying, which is, perhaps, as important as Practical Mineralogy to the student who expects to follow the profession of a Practical Mineralogist, who is likely to be engaged in mining work. Consider, then, what are the facilities provided for the teaching of this branch! Practically speaking, none.

To what circumstances, or to whom is the present condition of affairs due? Doubtless, partly to the present financial difficulties; but, perhaps, also to an unaccountable indifference on the part of the Senate to what seem to us to be just demands. When the late change was brought about, was it merely meant to relegate the department to continued obscurity for a year or two? Was it meant to silence Prof. Chapman's demands by apparent compliance? If it were so, it is difficult to say who will suffer more, Prof. Chapman and his students, or the University at large.

But in this we may do injustice to the intentions of the Senate; for to give them due credit, they have done nobly by some departments, notably that of Biology. While we heartily approve the advancement of this department, especially when we consider its close relations to the lately affiliated Toronto School of Medicine, we would like to see a proportional development in the two sister departments. We have been given to understand that suitable buildings are to be erected to meet the needs of the Chemical department. Such being done, we may well be proud of the efficiency of these branches; but our pride must stoop to own the present state of the Mineralogical department. If like intentions prevail in regard to the last named, we are sincerely glad of it; if not, we feel, as students of the University at large, a certain degree of indignation.

It may be urged and with some justice, that the cost of improvement such as we refer to, would be greater than the University could bear. But is not the status of the whole University dependant, to some extent, upon the excellence of individual departments; and if the standing of our College among sister Colleges is to be impaired by the deficiencies of any part, is it true economy to spare present expense to the detriment of future success?

Proper adjustment of the affairs of this department must be in the highest degree beneficial; not only by reason of intrinsic value, but also by the spirit of enthusiasm which would be created in the minds of instructors and instructed, who would feel, more than ever, that with the support and co-operation of the University, their successes would be her successes.

## UNIVERSITY SPIRIT.

An article appeared in a late issue of the *Red and Blue* which treats of the subject we referred to in the editorial column last week. It has the true ring and is well worthy of perusal by our readers. We hope in a future issue to again deal with this subject.

"There is one thing that all Pennsylvania men should always do what they can to foster, and especially to guard carefully from all inroads of factional prejudice—and that thing is their *University spirit*.

"Class, party, and departmental spirit is all good enough in its way and place, but is best secondary to University spirit, and whenever it occasions manifestations inimical to University spirit it must be frowned on.

"Pennsylvania men of all departments must remember that when simply a representation of class against class, or department against department is involved in any event or organization, class and departmental spirit is a praiseworthy thing; but when it is a question of any team or organization representing the University of Pennsylvania before the outside world, all class and departmental spirit should and must be merged into that higher spirit every true student feels for his University. We guard against saying *college* here, for that is a distinction which the *Red and Blue*, as representative of the students of Pennsylvania, is careful to make. The college is simply a department and the *Red and Blue* is not simply a *college* paper, but a paper for all Pennsylvania men, and it wishes in all ways to further, not college or class spirit, but *University spirit*."

The following letter on the same subject from one of our own students is in line with the above:—

Travellers who reach our city and seek to become acquainted with places and institutions of interest are invariably directed to Toronto University, as the pride of our province and city, and as one of the finest specimens of collegiate architecture on the continent. Scattered throughout, not only our own province and Dominion, but throughout almost the wide world, are the graduates from the halls of "Old Varsity."

No Englishman is prouder of the Union Jack, and of the past glories of the British Empire, than the alumni of our college are of their beloved Alma Mater. No patriot is more anxious to hold up the land of his birth and the places associated with all that his heart holds dear, than are those who go forth from our corridors to hold up before the people among whom they sojourn copies of what Toronto University seeks to make her sons and daughters, the best citizens, men and women of culture, of character, of courage, of honor, of devotion to all that is noblest and best.

I have said none are—I will rather say none should be—more earnest to exhibit such characteristics of fidelity to their college, and of loyalty to her training, than those who have had the privilege of being associated in Academic relations with the noble minds who have guided, and still do guide, her destiny. But this is by no means sufficient, nor is it sufficient that we shout "Old Varsity, we love thee." No college can be prouder of a record, than we of that over which we can look back. No College gives promise of wider developments and more glorious possibilities, than those which we feel lie before ours. But Mr. Editor, I am firmly convinced, from my undergraduate experience and from tolerably careful observation, that the same danger menaces the University as that which menaces our and every other country, viz., the danger of the disappearance of patriotism in mere sentiment, the evaporation of lofty feelings and lost capacities of achievement through exclusive confinement to the influences of mere emotion. At the present moment of our University life, when we see her rising in more stately grandeur than ever from her ruins, and when we delight to imagine the future which is gradually unfolding itself, three things need special emphasis and earnest consideration, especially on the part of the student body.

(1) Our college, while not simply an imposing pile of architecture, has through it great influence.

(2) The University is but beginning in what we hope is to prove a grand process of evolution.

(3) For this purpose she needs the assistance of each and every student as much as the efforts of her venerable President or of the Faculty.

Mr. Editor, it is not my intention to ask for space to show the relation and importance of these propositions; although I believe such space would by no means be wasted. What I wish to point out is that the bearings of all this, seen in many ways, is especially evident from a glance into one of our modern lecture rooms. Each one can for himself compare the conveniences supplied for us in our restored building, with those in the days when some of us were modest and unassuming freshmen. To-day the authorities with commendable liberalism have sought to make everything as comfortable as possible, and have furnished our class rooms in a way that should have touched our sentiment of pride and aroused a purpose that, in return for the care of those who provide for us, we would seek to second their efforts to make our college a greater source of satisfaction and centre of devotion than ever. Such might have been expected, but we look into some of the class rooms and see there the beginning of a thoughtless vandalism that should lower in the estimation of every loyal son and daughter of Varsity the stupid creatures who are serving the purpose of embarrassing our authorities in their good measures and of hurting the University whose praises we are so loud in howling.

Mr. Editor, I protest against the whole miserable business. There are none who object to innocent fun and none who wish to banish from our halls the proverbial student life and a great many of these time honored customs that help very greatly to make up the sentiment surrounding what are called "college days." We love those customs. We want the fun and life. But away with the contemptible means sometimes adopted to show a wit which is witless and a humor which is humorless. Away with the vandalism which destroys University furnishings that we were beginning, some of us, to take pride in. For those who delight in this, would that the days of ye Mufti were restored with the "sulphurous smoke and muffled groan."

Members of '92, '93, '94, '95, our college is in need of more endowment; it needs increased support; its usefulness though great is but beginning, and for its future triumphs it needs the pride, loyalty and devotion of its students, the pride and sympathy of the citizens, and, from all directions, the interest and support of friends of culture and of the intellectual and moral power which we believe can be obtained within our walls. Let us help to secure it. Let us do all in our power to preserve its material furnishings. Let us seek to show to the people of our city and province that Toronto University has not only a glorious past but a triumphant future, and that its students are alive to the demands of the age for men and women trained, not only in some departments, but equipped in every way for the duties of life. Believing that our beloved Varsity is the place of such preparation, will we not stand by her and present a body of students who do honor to her traditions and of whom all our country may be proud. Whether this is always done, I leave my readers to judge.

E. A. HENRY, '93.

## CARPE DIEM.

"Carpe Diem," Horace said,  
Soon the rose its bloom will shed.  
Taste the sweets of every hour  
Doomed to perish like the flower.  
Time the ever subtle thief  
Steals your moments—asks no lief—  
If the leaves and bloom he'll get  
You'll just have the thorn—regret  
"Carpe Diem," Horace said,  
When it's withered go to bed.

JAY KOB.É.

## OF ENGLISH BLANK VERSE.



WITH that power of natural selection which has been called instinct by those who know not the meaning of intuition, a poet uses those metrical forms which best adapt themselves to the intricacies of his thought. The mea-

asures of a true poem are ever in unison with the sentiment of its author: the dreamy tale of "The Faerie Queene" is not more Spenserian than the magical verse in which it is told, nor is the stanza of "In Memoriam" less Tennysonian than the noble sadness of the poem itself. This harmony results from the nature of a poetical thought—a thing so humorous and passionate as to disdain a dwelling whose architecture is not to its taste, and the arrangements of which are ill adapted to its comfort. Hence the personal characteristics of a poet appear as strikingly in his verse as in his poetry and inclinations. Moore in his boyhood handled a fiddle-bow with dexterity, and in manhood he wrote "Lalla Rookh" in clever rhyme; Milton in his youth preferred the organ, and the bass viol, and in maturity composed "Paradise Lost" in blank verse. What is true in the case of the individual is true in that of the nation: the poetry of a nation tastes of its spirit, as the wine of a district smacks of the soil; and a national poetical form is in itself an expression of a national character. The Iambic Trimeter was as intensely Greek as the Dactylic Hexameter in its later development was Roman; interlacing rhymes are as characteristic of Celtic genius as alliterative rhythm was of Saxon. Nowhere is this principle more remarkably exemplified than in blank verse. This is now distinctively our national measure; and so essentially British is it in structure and in feeling that as we trace it back to its beginnings in these isles, we wonder when we find that it is not a native growth. But with blank verse it has been as with the German Handel, who, in this country, under the influence of its poetry and of its life, created a "Judas Maccabæus" and an "Israel in Egypt," more national in feeling than the works of any native composer. It is the nature of the coast which has caused the wave that rose by another shore to break on ours as it has done—in the myriad-voiced roar of a Shakespeare, the brood of a Milton, and, even at our feet, in the tuneful murmurs of a Tennyson.

Obedient to that law of Oscillation which sways the pettifogging of a parish and the affairs of a world, Europe swung from the glories of Greece into the gloom of the middle age, only to swing again into the splendors of the Renaissance. Not without significance did the light that died away on Olympus break along the Apennines after the dreary night; for in its beginnings the Renaissance was but a recoil from the deathful stagnation of the middle-age to the paganism of Greece with its bold invention and passionate genius. Nearer, however, than the paganism of Greece was that of Italy, with all the possibilities of a fire which had never become extinct, kept alive by language and genius of race, as by Vestal virgins. It was this fire which, in the fifteenth century, seized on the filthy rags of a mediæval Christianity, and burst into a blaze of invention and ideality that illumined all Europe.

Small wonder, surely, when, early in the sixteenth century, the youthful Surrey, with his poet's soul and tuneful ear, wandered from his England, all voiceless as yet in the night of the middle-age, where never a nightingale had sung since Chaucer died, and travelled into Italy, where the birds were singing in the glory of the morning. Many are the melodies he hears; and, to be detected amid their tuneful cadences chiefly by its uncouthness, is a ten-syllabled, unrhymed verse, used in a translation of two books of Virgil by Francesco Molza, a dashing young poet, who, not without reason, gave the credit of the work to a Cardinal of the Medici. Deep calleth unto deep; this voice will not let the stranger be; the poetic intuition of the English Surrey says "this is it." Wait but a little, and blank verse will be in England!

Wonderfully uncharacteristic, however, of this gay Lothario of a Molza, wonderfully uncharacteristic, too, of his brilliant age, is this measure which, strong and yet so free, soundeth like the voice of a god—surely it is not a product of this golden time! There has been a king before this Agamemnon.

A king, indeed, there has been; aye, and a priest, a very Melchizedec! standing between the night and the day, with his face to the East, and the light already on his brow, for it is St. Francis of Assisi! With a passionate love of nature, and a something in his eye that will tame a wolf and charm a bird, do we wonder that the saint becomes the poet, and as he wanders in the woods of Perugia, bursts into song, transmuting the dying inspiration of the troubadours into a spiritual minstrelsy? Rough was the unrhymed Creation-Hymn that he gave as a marching song to the noble brethren who went out to battle with a corrupt faith, but in the rugged lines we hear strains which in the coming years will fill the world as with sphere-music.

Returning to England, Surrey brought with him the divine fire which, Prometheus-like, he had stolen from the Italian heaven; and he translated soon after into the first English blank verse the very books of Virgil which had been rendered into Italian by the luckless Molza. "Only a coincidence, however," say the enthusiasts, who tell us that blank verse was the result of Surrey's own conception. If a coincident, truly a marvellous one—nay, not a coincidence, a miracle! Not so, however. Surrey's genius was not of that high order which demanded a new form; he was not a founder, but a reformer—an English Petrarch, plaintive and platonic, who sang of his fair Geraldine to a troubadour's guitar, but who knew not the withering might of the love of love.

Yet surely he deserved better things at the hands of his England than that his golden hair, all dabbled with blood, should sweep the dust of a scaffold, ere his life was well begun. Ah me! was it ever otherwise? But shine on, contented in thy proud place, oh deathless youth! thou wast the first of the Elizabethans, and preparedst the way for a Shakespeare and a Milton, and all the glory of summer sun and cloudless sky has not made the best forget the star that glowed before the dawn, and led on the sunrise!

(To be continued.)

## OUR PROFESSOR—A MEMORY.

We held him one whose steps were ever sure,  
And toiling followed where he, loving, led,  
Till from our hearts the doubting shadows fled,  
And on firm faith we knew to stand secure.

He taught to shun each mad, misleading lure  
That sophists shape to show in Reason's stead,  
And in our search with trusting steps we sped  
As far and high as mortal may endure.

Then came a day when through the whispering halls  
There grew the pain as of the chilling dearth,  
When in eclipse the trusted morning dies;  
Then came the truth whose sternness yet appalls,  
A loveliness had vanished from the earth,  
A beauty passed forever from our eyes.

P. McARTHUR.

Iowa State University has a gymnasium class for professors three times a week.

A religious census was taken of the class of '95 at Harvard, under the auspices of the Harvard Y.M.C.A., at the time of their registration.

The Students' Christian Association of the University of Michigan offers a four years' course in Biblical instruction, after which a certificate will be given.

# The Varsity

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JANUARY 19, 1892.

## LITERARY SOCIETY.



THE Literary Society held its regular meeting on the evening of Friday, the 15th inst. The attendance was fair, especially when we consider that, through the carelessness of some one, those who were punctual were forced to stand upon the front steps of the building, until one of the more athletic members gained entrance through the window, and allowed the shivering enthusiasts to enter.

There was considerable business of importance transacted. The General Committee reported (1) That the meetings of January 29 and February 12 be devoted to the Mock Parliament; (2) That Mr. Gormally, second year representative from the School of Science, had failed to attend the meetings of the Executive; (3) That on account of the Glee Club Concert, on Friday, February 19, no meeting be held on that night; (4) That the meeting of February 5 be devoted to a consideration of the constitution. This report was adopted, and the office of second year representative from the S. P. S. declared vacant.

The Literary Programme was introduced by two excellent instrumental duets by Messrs. F. A. and J. L. Murray. Mr. B. A. C. Craig followed with a reading which was rendered in his usual good style. The essayist Mr. Chrysler failed to materialize. The debate was: *Resolved*, "That Ministers of the Gospel are justified in

taking part in Politics," and the leaders were to have been Mr. Griffith and Mr. Hellems. By some slight misunderstanding Mr. Griffith was also an unknown quantity, and in order that the debate might not fall through the question for discussion was reversed, Mr. Hellems undertaking to prove that ministers are *not* justified in taking part in politics. The negative at the request of the President was assumed extemporarily by Mr. Wheaton.

Mr. Hellems claimed that the work of ministers is essentially the salvation of souls, and that any mixing in of politics would impair their efficiency in that work. He said that history shows wherever the clergy have interfered in politics, they have detracted from their power in spiritual matters, and that interference of ministers in politics caused dissensions in their congregations.

Mr. Wheaton on the negative maintained that the ministers should lead the people in spiritual and moral things, and as politics were inseparably connected with the spiritual and moral welfare of the people the ministers should take part in them. He submitted that every Christian man should endeavor to make his influence felt on all questions affecting public interest.

The debate was continued on behalf of the affirmative by Mr. Craig and Mr. Moss, and on behalf of the negative by Mr. McCraney and Mr. McMillan.

After a summing up by the President, who occupied the chair, the question was left to a vote of the meeting, which declared by a majority of one that the affirmative had failed to prove that ministers were not justified in interfering in politics.

A report was read from the Committee on the Revision of the Invitation List, which was adopted with two slight alterations

Mr. Jas. Robertson and Mr. Walter J. Francis were nominated to fill the vacancy of 2nd year representative from the S. P. S.

Mr. McArthur and Mr. Robertson were elected as 1st year representatives on the Executive.

Mr. McMurchy moved, seconded by Mr. Lamont, that Mr. J. W. Henderson, the President, Mr. Irwin, and the Rec.-Sec'y, Mr. Wheaton, be a committee to frame a resolution of condolence with the parents of the late J. A. Sparling, and forward the same to them on behalf of the Society.

Mr. McMurchy moved, that Mr. Irwin, the President, Mr. Perrin and Mr. Wheaton be a committee to frame a resolution expressive of regret at the death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, and to forward the same to the Governor-General. Both of which motions carried.

The next regular meeting of the Society will be held in the large Assembly Hall of the School of Practical Science, next Friday evening, Jan. 22nd, it being the occasion of the Inter-collegiate Debate, with representatives from McGill University. Subject of debate: *Resolved*, "That the Effects of the French Revolution of 1789 have been Beneficial." Affirmative—F. E. Perrin and J. A. Cooper, representing University of Toronto; Negative—W. H. S. Kollmyer and W. J. Messenger, representing McGill University, Montreal.

O. P. Edgar, '92, will give an essay on Walt Whitman, and W. H. Pease, '94, will recite the speech made by Hayne before the U. S. Senate, to which W. P. Reeve, '94, will reply by giving that of Daniel Webster. Music supplied by the College Glee Club.

Prof. Alfred Baker will take the chair at 7.30 p.m. Censors in the hall: G. E. McCraney, '92; F. C. Brown, '92; R. W. Thomson, '92; F. B. Hellems, '93; K. D. McMillan, '93; F. D. Fry, '94; F. W. E. Wilson, '95.

Woodcock, the famous pitcher of Brown University, has signed a contract with Pittsburgh for next season.

By a misprint in this column we gave Wellesley 100 students instead of 700. We hope the friends of this institution will forgive us this serious blunder.

## MEDICAL NOTES.

## SCHOOL OF SCIENCE.

The Medical Society held its first meeting for the Easter term on Friday evening, Vice-President Mr. Harper in the chair. The programme was opened by a song from Mr. Skurie. Mr. Colter, of the College of Dentistry, then rendered a vocal selection, which was followed by a paper on "Malignant Disease of the Pylorus and its Surgical Treatment," by Mr. Bruce.

The masterful manner in which Mr. Bruce treated his subject reflects great credit both on himself and the Society. A discussion followed in which Drs. E. E. King, Peters, Third, Amyot and the Vice-President took part, and which was closed by Mr. Bruce. Many interesting points were brought out.

The closing feature of the evening was a lecture by Dr. King on the Endoscope and Cystoscope, the function and application of which is to illuminate internal cavities of the body. The lecturer illustrated his remarks from diagrammatic plates and a complete set of the apparatus used which was very elaborate, and gave evidence of the wonderful strides electricity has made in its scientific applications to medicine.

By a combination of optical reflectors and lenses, and the introduction of a very minute incandescent light enclosed in a tube into the cavity to be examined, the operator is enabled to aid his diagnosis by actually seeing the internal walls of the diseased cavity, and in the case of the Endoscope he can apply medicine directly to the exact seat of disease while observing it through the *oculaire*. At the close of his pleasing and most instructive paper, a hearty vote of thanks was tendered the genial doctor.

The only objectionable feature of the meeting was the lateness of the hour to which it was protracted, though the extremely interesting character of the proceedings somewhat offset this objection.

Possibly even this difficulty could be overcome and the boys allowed to reach their homes at the seasonable hour for which medical students are especially noted if the meetings were called sharp on time or even earlier.

The merit of good papers is very often detracted from on account of the necessity for haste.

The Christmas vacation is come and gone, and now the all-absorbing thought of the average medico is how he may best set his rigging for the severe storm fast approaching, and steer his bark safely through the shoals and quicksands of an examination.

The day is gone by when a medical examination could be faced with serene composure by the candidate and caused him little terror. Now it is only by the closest application to his studies and the concentration on them of all his energies that the student of ordinary intellectual ability, possessed of a fair amount of cerebral grey matter and the average number of cranial convolutions, can present himself for examination with a reasonable probability of being successful. But we would not wish it otherwise.

Probably no class of students is so hard pressed during the college term as the medical student. Almost up to the time of examination he is kept in close attendance on lectures and practical instruction the greater part of the day, leaving but a remnant of the latter and the evening for home study.

No breathing space between the closing of lectures and the commencement of examination is allowed the unfortunate disciple of Aesculapius in which he may at his leisure brush up doubtful points and fortify himself on all hands, but he is as it were precipitated headlong from the lecture-room into the examination hall. *O frater in artibus, ora pro nobis!*

The trouble which arose between the Mannattan Athletic Club and Yale, over the receipts of the Thanksgiving Day game, has been settled. Each college will receive something over \$14,000.

All the undergrads are now back from the Christmas Vacation, and are getting into the old routine of work, settling down with that grim determination peculiar to the Easter term. We are glad to see Mr. Angus Smith, of the second year, amongst us. Mr. Smith dropped out for the last term, but is now going on with this term's work. Kit Forrester, our famous representative at half-back on the National Football Team, is also expected back for his third year's work.

The Toxicological Laboratory, in the Chemical Department, has been lately remodelled and rearranged to go on with the fourth year work in Applied Chemistry. Mr. O. S. James, '91, is the only member of the new fourth year—in fact the only one in any of the courses.

A number of innovations are being introduced this year by the Faculty and "Board of Examiners." The changes are made especially in the drawing department, and on the whole do not appear to meet with the general approval of the students. The consequence is that several complaints have been made, but not with very satisfactory results.

The Mineralogical Laboratory in the north wing has been finally arranged, and work has now commenced in the several years in this department. It is certainly to be regretted that the last term was allowed to go by without any work being done in this laboratory, but it seems that the delay was unavoidable. The present indications are that all the years will have to put in extra time in this department to complete the work necessary for this session.

The committee on the publication of the Engineering Society Pamphlet is again at work to issue this year's number as soon as possible. They hope to get it into the hands of the students by the end of February. During the recent vacation a number of exchanges have been received from the Engineering Society at the University of Michigan. The publication called the *Technic* is very similar to our own, and contains much valuable matter, which is much appreciated by the S. P. S. men.

Complaints again are heard concerning the telephone service at the School. There is no telephone in the building which is at the disposal of students, and this is unfortunate. It is time for the authorities to take the matter in hand and see that the wants of the students are supplied in this direction.

## NATURAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.

The Natural Science Association held its first meeting for the year on the 12th inst. in the Chemical Lecture Room. The question of awarding the Cawthorne Medal was introduced by Dr. Miller, and on his motion the Secretary was instructed to write Mr. Shutt, the generous donor of the above medal, regretting that the Society had been guilty of negligence in not attending to the presentation of the medal to the gentleman who succeeded in winning it in '91. This oversight was in a measure due to the fact that the examining committee had not handed in a definite report to the Association.

The paper for the afternoon was read by Mr. Wheaton who spent all last summer as Government Inspector of cheese factories in the Maritime Provinces. The various instruments used by cheesemakers and others were well described; among them may be mentioned the Lactometer, Lactoscope, and especially the Babcock Milk Tester. After the essay, the President made some remarks as to the use of this latter instrument by Medical Health Officers.

The Association, at its next meeting, to be held on the 28th in the Biological Lecture Room, will have the pleasure of listening to Dr. Coleman, the newly appointed Mineralogist in the School of Science. We are sure of an excellent address, and the members are requested to turn out *en masse* and welcome Dr. Coleman.



## THE GLEE CLUB TOUR.

Towards noon on Tuesday, December 15th, a number of bedraggled students might have been seen hurrying through the slush and slop, bedecked with cap and gown, each bearing on his shoulders or lugging with weary arm a valise of portentous look and unutterable weight, and when at last they reach the "Union" and board their special car, a large-sized sigh of relief goes up as the valise comes down with a dull thud on the floor. Soon the bells clang out their warning note and with snail-like pace we pull out of the station. The much talked of tour has begun.

Two enthusiasts have painted us a sign bearing the legend, "Varsity Glee Club, Toronto," and it proves an object of admiration and no little awe to the rustics, as we fly along at the rate of ten miles an hour.

After a stop at Hamilton, St. Catharines is reached, and with a yell of exultation we proceed to take possession of the town. A rehearsal, a supper, and an hour spent in struggling with refractory collar buttons, cravats bound to get round on one side, and pumps whose sizes too small and we are ready for the fray. As we sally out, the rain comes down in torrents through the pitchy darkness of unlighted streets, but within the church all is warm and bright, and a good-sized crowd greets us as we step upon the platform for our first concert.

All went "merry as a marriage bell," and our exertions were rewarded a liberal meed of applause. The "sweet strains" over, a descent was made on the "lower regions," where a pleasant-looking supper table, surrounded by pleasanter looking faces, was laid, and midst the clatter of cups and plates, and the gleam of bright eyes, all our woes were forgotten and spirits bubbled o'er in merry jest and song.

The next morning sees us on our way again, and soon that place of world-wide fame, Niagara Falls, is reached. Our luggage safely stowed away, we cross the bridge, and, with Meinherr Schuch in command, proceed to view the sights. After walking for an hour or more, and seeing nothing but a number of buildings, bearing the mystic words SAMPLE ROOM, in large yellow letters, we take possession of a roadside inn, and demolish oysters and beef-steak to the strains of *Trovatore*, rendered by a remarkable combination called an Orchestron, in an adjoining room. Then after an hour's rest and recreation, we go down and have a critical look at the Falls, and, having pronounced them genuine, hie us again to the Canadian shore.

A first-class house greeted us in the evening, and with the confidence of old hands, we did ourselves ample justice, and the rafters fairly rang with applause.

A royal spread followed, during which one unblushing freshman was seen to pass his plate *five* times for trifle, and was accordingly rebuked. Supper was followed by promenading and dancing, and it was in the "wee sma' hours" when we returned to rest with the cheering knowledge that dawning day must see us on our way again. Is it any wonder, then, that two of us were left? Nay, verily; the wonder is that not two but thirty were not left behind to mourn.

Slowest of the slow was the train, and innumerable the stops next day, and it was with glad heart we heard the brakesman call out "Brantford," and felt the jarring of the brakes as the train came slowly to a standstill. Brantford is a delightful place, and who of us would not have liked to settle down there, and that without delay, especially near the Ladies' College.

After a very sociable time spent at the College in the afternoon, we were not in the best of trim for our concert in the evening, but nevertheless succeeded in charming the large audience assembled in Wycliffe Hall. Unsainted applause rewarded our efforts, and we retired from the hall a satisfied though somewhat sleepy crowd of students, the more fortunate to wend their way to the home of one

of Brantford's fair ones, to spend a short time in social converse, the rest to console themselves with slumber deep.

On the following afternoon we arrived at Chatham. Chatham is a town on the Thames, and boasts among other wonderful things a "Street Railway System." Some of the freshmen had never seen a street railway system before, and gazed with no little wonder at the car as it stood in the middle of the road, while horse and driver took a quiet siesta in the shade of a spreading maple. We were still pondering over these things when we took our places on the stage of the Opera House in the evening, but they soon gave way to subjects of more grave import. An enthusiastic draught made vigorous and frequent claims on our attention. It seemed to come from everywhere at once, and several times threatened to sweep the whole club, conductor and all, bodily off the stage. The audience too was different from the general run of audiences. A calm dignity characterized it throughout, and gave way only before the classic strains of "Kemo-Kimo." "God save the Queen" put an end to the concert, and we retired with a sense of duty done, glad and yet sorry that it was all over.

The next morning saw us on our homeward journey, a wiser but not sadder crowd. All too soon we reached the city again, and the tour of '91 was a thing of the past.

The tour was in every way a complete success, and is doubtless but a fore-runner of greater things to come. P.

## OBITUARY.

JOHN ALFRED SPARLING, B.A., '88.

It is our painful duty this week to record the death of one of Toronto's most distinguished graduates, Mr. John A. Sparling.

While attending the University he took a brilliant stand not only in the class-lists but in all departments connected with our college. He occupied the most distinguished positions in the gift of his fellow-students.

He was President of the University Y. M. C. A. during his last year, and throughout his whole course took an active part in its work. He was the acknowledged leader of the affirmative party, which gained such a signal victory in 1888. These are the most conspicuous evidences of his extreme popularity and wide-spread influence.

The following is a clipping from one of the newspapers of Strathroy, where he labored ever since graduation. The paragraph speaks for itself:—

## DEATH'S SAD WORK.

It is our sad duty to-day to announce the death of Mr. John A. Sparling, mathematical master of the Strathroy Collegiate Institute. After a very short and distressing illness he passed away this morning at eight o'clock. Only last Thursday he was at his place in the school, apparently in good health, to-day his relatives and friends mourn his death, and the cessation of work at the Collegiate Institute indicates the keenness of the regret of his fellow-workers and of the whole body of students for whose welfare he has toiled so hard. Mr. Sparling was a young man of unusual ability and promise. His early taking off is lamentable indeed. His sterling character and manly worth were well known to all. The old proverb says, "Nothing but good of the dead," but here was a man about whom, when alive, no one could say or even think anything but good. Mr. Sparling's connection with Strathroy dates back to 1884. He came here as a pupil in January of that year with Mr. Wetherell, who had been his teacher in St. Mary's. Last Thursday, the day he was stricken down, was the eighth anniversary of his coming to this town. In the summer of 1884 he matriculated at Toronto University. After a brilliant course of study in Toronto he returned after four years to Strathroy to attend the Training Institute. As the most distinguished teacher in the class, he was chosen in Dec., 1888, to fill a vacancy in the Collegiate Institute staff. He was soon promoted to the position of

mathematical master—a position which he has filled with unparalleled success. Mr. Sparling's work as a teacher has been worthy of all praise, but his worth and influence were felt outside the school room. His untiring devotion to the interests of his pupils in the Collegiate Institute was only one side of his life. His zeal and energy were conspicuous in many fields, and more than one vacant chair will speak eloquently of his well spent hours. We have lost him. He is gone. We know him now as we never did before. Whatever of his career we shall forget, the memory of his unstained, blameless life will ever be fresh and green.

### MR. McEVROY'S LECTURE.

The Political Science Association of '94 held its weekly meeting in the Y. M. C. A. Hall, Wednesday afternoon, Prof. Ashley presiding. There was present a large attendance, including a very fair representation from the other years; this was owing to the general expectation of something interesting from the paper on "Carl Marx's Theory of Value," which Mr. J. M. McEvoy, B.A., was to read—an expectation which was not belied. Prof. Ashley, in introducing the lecturer to the meeting, paid a high compliment to the excellence of Mr. McEvoy's paper, which was about to be read.

Mr. McEvoy prefaced his remarks by reminding his hearers that an adequate conception of the theories of Carl Marx was most important at the present moment, when the working classes of Europe are imbued with the doctrines of Marx. He bespoke for Marx a kindly consideration, not an unkindly criticism from a prejudiced standpoint. The argument of Marx was shown to be, throughout, a negative one. It was seen that many economists in joining issue with Marx had not really vanquished him—notably Rae and the late Professor de Laveleye. Mr. McEvoy, proceeding, showed that Marx, in common with many of the older economists, regarded value as being intrinsic; by an apt illustration the fallacy of this position was shown.

Prof. Ashley then said a few words concerning Marx, and gave valuable information concerning his real position. It was interesting to learn that many of the workmen who make Marx their shibboleth do not really understand his doctrines. A vote of thanks to Mr. McEvoy was then moved by Mr. Lamb, seconded by Mr. Craig, and being put to the meeting was declared duly carried. The meeting then adjourned, after having spent a most interesting and profitable time.

### THE MEETING OF KRIEMHILD AND SIEGFRIED.

(NIBELUNGENLIED: FIFTH ADVENTURE.)

Now came she fair and lovely, as the ruddy sun of morn  
From misty clouds emerging. Straight he who long had  
borne  
Her in his heart and loved her, from all his gloom was freed,  
As so stately there before him he saw the fair and lovely  
maid.

Her rich apparel glittered with many a precious stone,  
And with a ruddy beauty her cheeks like roses shone.  
Though you should wish to do so, you could not say, I ween,  
That e'er a prettier lady in all the world before was seen.

As in a sky all starlit the moon shines out so bright,  
And through the cloudlets peering pours down her gentle  
light,  
E'en so was Kriemhild's beauty among her ladies fair:  
The hearts of gallant heroes were happier when they saw  
her there.

The richly clad attendants moved stately on before,  
And the valiant thanes high-hearted stood patiently no  
more,

But pressed right eager forward to see the lovely maid:  
In noble Siegfried's bosom alternate joy and anguish swayed.

He thought with heart despairing, "How could it ever be  
That I should win thy favor, as hope has prompted me?  
But had I e'er to shun thee, then were I rather dead."  
Through pain of love in secret had he to gloomy thoughts  
been led.

Siegmund's noble son did there so stately stand,  
As if his form were pictured by good old master's hand  
Upon a piece of parchment: all who saw, confessed  
That of all the goodly heroes the stateliest was he and the  
best.

The fair Kriemhild's attendants gave order to make way  
On all sides for the ladies, and willing thanes obey.  
To see their noble bearing did every warrior cheer;  
Full many a stately lady of gentle manner born was there.

Then outspoke of Burgundy Gernot the valiant knight:  
"To him who thus has helped thee so bravely in the fight,  
Gunther, royal brother, shalt thou thy favor show,  
A thane before all others; he's worthy of it well, I trow.

"Let then the doughty Siegfried, this royal Siegmund's  
son,  
Go now unto fair Kriemhild, as 'twere an honor done.  
She who ne'er greeted hero shall greet him courteously,  
That thus the stately warrior for aye our faithful friend  
may be."

The king's knights hastened gladly upon his high com-  
mand,  
And told these joyous tidings to the prince of Netherland.  
"It is the king's good pleasure that thou to court shalt go,  
To have his sister's greetings; to honor thee 't is ordered  
so."

Then was the thane full valiant thereat soon filled with  
joy.

Yea, bore he in his bosom delight without alloy  
At thought that he should straightway the winsome maiden  
see.

Siegfried anon she greeted in courteous manner lovingly.

As she saw the knight high-hearted there before her stand,  
Blushed red and spake the maiden, the fairest of the land:  
"A welcome, brave Sir Siegfried, thou noble knight and  
good."

As soon as he had heard it, the hearty greeting cheered  
his mood.

Right low he bowed before her as his hand in hers took  
she,

And by her side went onward the knight full willingly.  
They cast upon each other fond glances many a one,  
The knight and eke the maiden; furtively it all was done.

Whether he pressed friendly that hand as white as snow  
From the love he bore her, that I do not know;  
Yet believe I cannot that this was left undone,  
For straightway showed the maiden that he complete her  
heart had won.

In the sunny summer season and in the month of May  
Had his heart seen never before so glad a day,  
Nor one so fully joyous, as when he walked beside  
That maiden rich in beauty whom fain he'd choose to be  
his bride.

G. H. NEEDLER.

Princeton is to have a new commencement hall, with a  
seating capacity of 1,800.

Between twenty-five and thirty men are trying for  
places in the Yale freshman boat.



## 'MIDST THE MORTAR BOARDS.

Mr. F. B. Hoag is teaching English in Aylmer.

The graduating class is still delighting Bryce's camera.

The Banjo and Guitar Club began its twanging for the Easter term on Thursday last.

The Young Men's Liberal Club of the city tendered its hospitality to our students on Saturday evening last.

Mr. H. W. Brown, president of the Modern Language Club, is still ill at his home in Niagara Falls South.

Mr. A. J. Tufts, formerly student of Toronto University, spent a few days with his old class-mates last week.

We are pleased to report the rapid convalescence of our honored President, and hope he may soon be restored to us with his wonted vigor.

Mr. William Dale, M.A., delivered a lecture on "The Greatness of Ancient Rome" in the University Hall on Saturday last. A report will be given in a future issue of VARSITY.

The first meeting of the Y.M.C.A. of the term was held on Thursday last, and was led by J. McNicholl, B.A., the general secretary. Mr. Fowlie, '94, was chosen recording secretary. The next meeting is a missionary meeting.

There will be a meeting of the editorial staff of THE VARSITY every Friday evening at 7.15 sharp. All members are requested to attend, as this is the only evening of the week that all get together to prepare matter for the next issue.

Ninety-four will hold a class meeting on Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock in the Science-room in the University building. An interesting programme has been prepared; general business will also be discussed, including a proposed constitutional amendment.

Mr. Frank R. Lillie, B.A., has been working during the past summer at the U. S. Marine Biological Laboratory in Wood's Hall, Mass., under Prof. Whitman, of Clarke University, Worcester, Mass. Mr. Lillie is now pursuing original investigation at Clarke. He has been appointed to a fellowship there and will probably remain for his Ph.D. degree, after which he may further pursue his study in Germany. His many friends will be pleased to hear of his success and wish him the same for the future.

The University College Glee Club will give a concert in the Pavilion Feb. 19th. Miss Howe, one of America's greatest sopranos, will make her first appearance in Canada. Reserved seats \$1.00, students 75c. Tickets may be obtained from members of the club. Let everyone patronize this entertainment as we are indebted to the club for music on all festal occasions,

and this is the only substantial way we have of showing our great appreciation of their services. We understand they have gone to great expense in getting up this concert, and on this account we would like to see a full house. Let us also remember that this, in some measure, will take the place of the conversat.

An open meeting of the Mathematical and Physical Society will be held in the western gallery room on Friday, January 22, at 3 p.m. The programme will consist of a paper on "The Construction of Musical Scales," by Mr. W. J. Loudon, in which the development of the modern musical scale will be traced through the various forms of the Greek and Roman scales, together with a description of various musical instruments. This meeting was to have been held last Friday but had to be postponed on account of the unfinished state of some of the rooms. A cordial invitation is extended to all undergraduates, and particularly to those interested in the study of music, to attend this meeting.

The first meeting of the Modern Language Club was held on Jan. 11, just one week too early, especially considering the treat that was on the programme. The few that did go, however, made up in appreciation for their lack of numbers, and thoroughly enjoyed the paper given by Mr. Keys on his "Grammarians' Holiday." In the course of the paper the lecturer spoke of an infinity of things for which the student particularly has a lively interest. From the beginning, where he describes his trip on the Friesland, to the very end, the hearer was continually either pleased or instructed, or, more frequently, both. It is to be hoped that Mr. Keys can be induced to deliver his lecture again at a date when the enjoyment of it may be more generally partaken of.

Powells was made gay Tuesday evening by a festive association rejoicing in the name of the anti Plugs. Fifteen were to have been present, but the only two confirmed Plugs who had been invited backed out, thus leaving the mystic number thirteen. The edibles were discussed with all becoming seriousness; letters from several distinguished persons, who were not present because they hadn't been asked, was read. Then the after-dinner oratory came on and a large amount of post-prandial pyrotechnics was indulged in. The "inevitable" grad. and the "inevitable" freshman did their share, and of course THE VARSITY man responded for the press, the bulwark of freedom. At a late hour the jovial crew disbanded to meet again next year—if the examiners are in the meantime propitious.

On Tuesday, Jan. 12, the Classical Association held its first regular meet-

ing for this term, Mr. W. S. Milner presiding. Interesting papers on Thucydides and the Perutean Age were read by Messrs. W. P. Reeve and W. B. Howell. Mr. Milner, in conclusion, delivered a scholarly and instructive address. The following is the programme for the remainder of the term: January 26.—(a) Socrates as represented by Xenophon, Mr. A. B. Cushing, '93; (b) Socrates as represented by Plato, Mr. D. A. Glassey, '93; (c) Trial and Death of Socrates, Mr. E. A. Wicher, '95. February 9.—Open meeting. Addresses by Mr. Dale and Mr. Milner. February 23.—(a) Horace and his Influence on Succeeding Literature, Mr. W. L. Naines, '94; (b) Horace's Views on Philosophy and Religion, Mr. H. J. Sissons, '94; (c) His Relations with Augustus and Maecenas, Mr. L. A. Green, '94. March 8.—(a) Comparison of Virgil with Homer, Mr. W. H. Gillespie, '94; The Causes of the *Eneid's* Popularity, Mr. A. Eddy, '94.

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