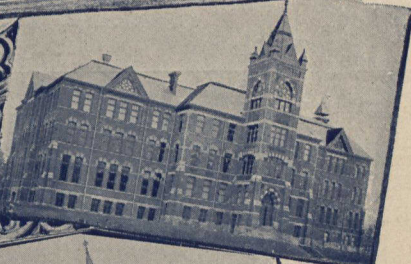
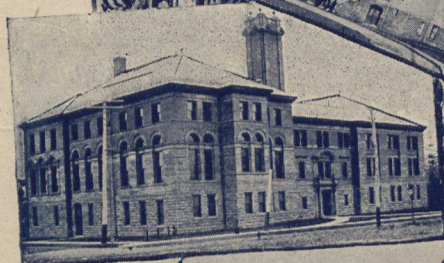
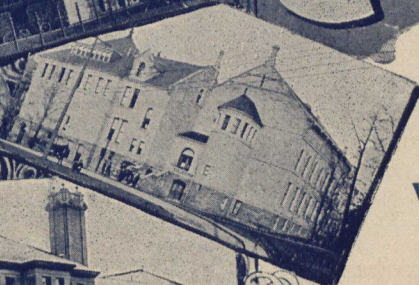
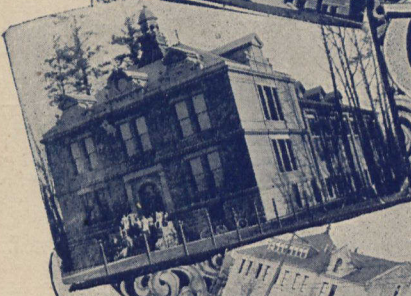
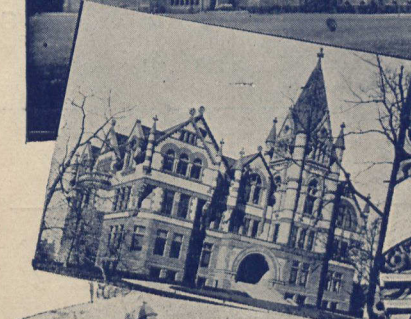
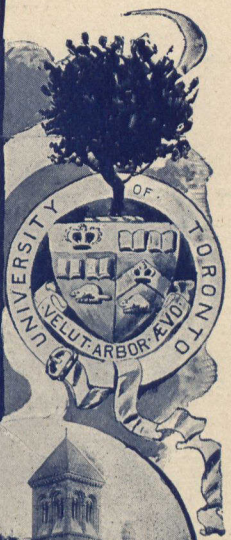
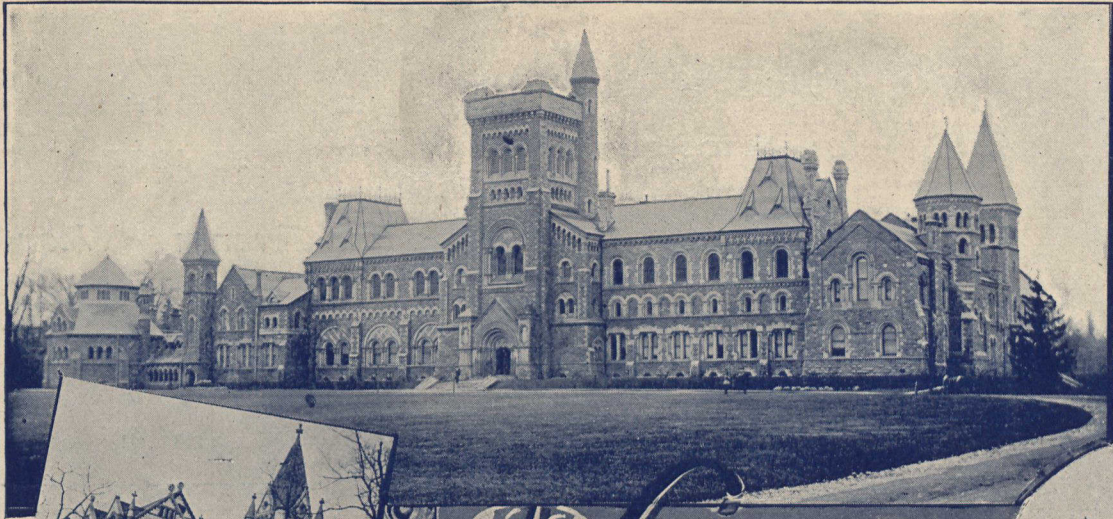


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THE UNIVERSITY

VOL. XVII. No. 8

University of Toronto.

TORONTO, DECEMBER 2ND, 1897.

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THE VARSITY.

A Weekly Journal of Literature, University Thought and Events.

VOL. XVII.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, DECEMBER 2, 1897.

No. 8.

Undergraduate Life in the University of Chicago.

It would seem almost the part of presumption for me to attempt, at present, to give any exhaustive account of undergraduate life in the University of Chicago. Not only is it impossible for anyone to enter thoroughly into the spirit of a great university world in so short a period, but the complete separation of the graduate from the undergraduate interests is so marked, that it is a matter of real difficulty for the graduate to gain a clear idea of the elements which go to make up the life of his younger fellow-student. And so, in this paper, I shall try merely to give a few "impressions," however fragmentary and incomplete, noticing particularly those features of student life here, which are most apt to suggest comparison with our own Alma Mater.

Perhaps the most noticeable difference is to be found in the utter absence of class spirit. There can be no class spirit, for strictly speaking there are no "classes." A student, on entering the University here, does not find his year's work mapped out for him in advance, as he does in our own University. The elective system prevails throughout. He must take a certain number of "majors" in order to be given credit for the work of the quarter, but he has entire freedom regarding the choice of these subjects. Perhaps I should not say entire freedom,—a certain number of courses in certain subjects is required before graduation, especially in the Junior College—but, comparatively speaking, a student has very great freedom indeed in choosing his work. The Junior College takes up the work of the first two years, the Senior College that of the last two. Accordingly, the genus *freshman* is unknown; all undergraduates are either juniors or seniors. A student is ready to graduate whenever he has completed the required number of courses, and as this may occur at the end of any quarter, graduation exercises are held four times in each year. Under such a system class spirit is of course an impossibility.

The question of examinations is a comparatively simple one. Three majors constitute the full work of a quarter, and for the purpose of examination in these subjects two days at the end of each quarter are found to be sufficient. Some credit is also given for work done during the term, and the final test is partly oral, partly written. As a result, there is no more serious examination at the end of the college year than were those encountered at the end of the preceding quarters. The advantages of such a system are obvious. It tends to secure more systematic, regular work throughout the year, and besides relieving the student of the unnatural strain at the end of the year, discourages cramming. On the other hand, its disadvantages are perhaps equally apparent, if one considers the thorough review and constant application which the Toronto man

finds necessary. To me it seems certain that the ideal examination system—if such exist—must be found in the adoption of a middle course between the two systems.

It is only when one sees the undergraduate life of a new institution like Chicago, that he can appreciate how much he owes to the men of former days in his own Alma Mater, for institutions which have come to mean to him almost as much as the routine work of lectures itself. The University of Chicago was founded in 1890, and whether the short period since that time has been insufficient for the evolving of numerous student organizations, or whether the preponderance of the graduate school tends to discourage their establishment, at any rate, we find them almost entirely lacking. There are no departmental societies corresponding to Toronto's numerous associations and clubs; there are no Hallowe'en traditions to fire the heart with a noble enthusiasm to rise above the domination of the policeman, for at least one night in the year; there is not even any society comprising the whole body of the students, which in any sense corresponds to our Literary Society. An undergraduate, whom I asked for some information, assured me that there was "no undergraduate life." Perhaps we may here find the explanation of the intense enthusiasm for football, in which almost every student takes the keenest interest. The enormous crowds who pay enormous prices for the privilege of watching the games, are such as would delight the heart of a Toronto managing committee. A bill is now before the city council providing for the suppression of the game, but footballists feel that it has not popular support, and without any great concern Chicago men go their ways. The University eleven has thus far been victorious in every match it has played during the present season, but the University of Michigan, with which they still have to play, is expected to present more serious claims to the championship of the Western Association.

The residence system is almost perfected as far as women students are concerned, though the men fare hardly better than in Toronto. Three large buildings—Kelly, Beecher and Foster Halls—provide college homes for the great majority of the women students, in both the college and graduate school, and a project is already on foot for the erection of a fourth. I am informed that the management of these halls is on a very democratic basis, a guiding principle being the avoidance of everything savoring of a "Ladies' College." One hall—Snell House—furnishes a residence to a very small proportion of the men undergraduates, while Graduate Hall and Divinity Hall are much more extensive, and provide in a similar way for graduate and divinity students. Occasional "At Homes" are held in the women's halls, and the professors also entertain students at their homes, but on the whole, social functions are much less numerous than is the case in Toronto. One very apparent cause for this is the absence of the class societies, clubs and associations, which have multiplied so freely of late years in our own University.

The relations between the students and professors are of the easiest, freest kind. There is an entire lack of al

formality and frigid dignity on the one side, and excessive awe on the other. Neither professors nor students wear gowns, even at lectures, and indeed there are very few lectures which do not take on the nature of "seminars" or "recitations." A spirit of earnest, enthusiastic work pervades every department, and to this spirit are sacrificed all conventionalities. Nor must it be supposed for a moment that such free relations tend to degenerate into a lack of real respect. On the contrary, I believe that Chicago students show greater respect for the members of the faculty than do even those of Toronto. The genial spirit of good fellowship which has penetrated the whole student body, and the uniform kindness and willingness to oblige, which they show towards new students, is worthy of being emulated in Canadian colleges.

I am well aware that some of the features of undergraduate life here, as I have indicated them, are not of a very inviting nature. But so it is, and in the Graduate School, I am glad to say, most of these objectionable features have disappeared. The truth is that the latter entirely overshadows the colleges, and gives to the whole University a decidedly post-graduate tone. At present there are several schools in the city which take up work preparatory to that of the University, in which the whole work of the Junior College is now being done, and whose graduates accordingly enter the Senior College directly. It is even rumored that this sort of preparatory school is being encouraged more and more by the University authorities, looking toward the eventual cutting off of Junior College work in the University. To a graduate student, however, Chicago offers many attractions. Almost every department can count men of continental reputation on its staff. The general library of the University is one of the best in the United States, and the departmental libraries are all that could be desired. Every facility for work is provided, and every encouragement and assistance are gladly given. But perhaps this is another story, for my subject was to have been undergraduate life.

Of course such a subject is almost inexhaustible. It would be interesting to tell of the quiet, sober manner in which Convocation is held in the University Congregational Church! How difficult it is to make a Chicago man understand our Convocation or Hallowe'en customs, or—more hopeless still—our Literary Society elections. It would be interesting, too, to sketch the part played in college life by the various fraternities, or to compare the phraseology of the Toronto man with that of a Chicagoan who is never a "plug" who "plugs," but a "bone" who "bones"; who does not "slope lectures" but "cuts recitations," and accordingly gets "cuts." A description of the magnificent buildings, their equally magnificent equipment, and their practically suburban situation on Midway Plaisance between the two largest parks of the city, would make too long a story for a paper, beyond the assigned limits of which I fear I have already trespassed. But before concluding I would just say that, since coming here, I have been better able to appreciate the real excellence of Toronto's undergraduate course,—using the word in its broadest meaning,—for surely every graduate, when, in a retrospective frame of mind, he counts over the gains derived from his college course, must consider those derived from books and lectures as forming only a part, though a very real part, of the whole. In post-graduate work Chicago must have a glorious future. An annual expenditure of a million and a quarter of dollars and a staff of two hundred members are some of the means she is employing at present, and she confesses to finding them insufficient. In view of facts like these, I believe that many graduates, while hoping all things good, cannot but feel grave apprehension regarding the ultimate success and consequent justification of the scheme of post-graduate work which has just been initiated at our own Alma Mater.

MALCOLM W. WALLACE.

The College Girl

The college girls of our University get very little recognition from the social world of this city—indeed one might say none at all. Now that the Countess of Aberdeen, from her position the leader of all Canadian Society, has invited them to take charge of one set of the dances at her Historical Ball, it seems to me it would be a great pity if the college girls do not think of it seriously, and make strenuous efforts to accept, and to put before the social world of Toronto a good view of the power of the college girl to play a successful part in society. There is an idea prevalent, and possibly nowhere more so than in this city, that college girls are peculiarly different from other girls and especially from society girls—that they are so engrossed in their books that they know little or nothing of society customs, and if turned loose in a ball room they would inevitably disgrace their friends and themselves by their awkwardness and the general blue-stocking air enveloping them. That this is utterly false, we who are college girls know, but we may keep on saying so till we are old and grey and it will do no good, unless we do something to prove that our higher education only enables us to play our part in society, whatever that part may be, more gracefully. Moreover, it is all very well to talk about despising society life as vain, empty and frivolous, but society women have a power in the community, and so long as that power turns its face away from the college girl—well, she can't do anything to make society life any higher and nobler, and she is shut out from a sphere where, by her breadth of mind, and true culture, and above all, genuine womanliness, she might not only be a great power for good, but also a more graceful ornament. There is no reason why the College girls should not dance a set representing literary characters at this ball, and do it with great success if they only firmly resolve upon so doing.

* * *

Notwithstanding the fact that many of the faithful followers of the Woman's Literary Society had not returned from their Thanksgiving holiday trip, there was a very good attendance at the meeting last Saturday evening. Among the guests one noticed Mrs. Loudon, Miss Salter, Mrs. Brebner, Miss Cleary of Windsor, the Misses Mackenzie, and Miss Annie Webb.

The president of the society had charge of the meeting.

After the minutes of last meeting had been read and adopted, the president reported that Miss MacDougall had been obliged to resign her position as one of the representatives in the coming inter-college debate. Miss Helen Hughes, '00, was elected to take her place.

An invitation from her Excellency Lady Aberdeen, to take part in the Historical Ball to be held at Government House, on December 28th, was laid before the society.

Her Excellency desires that the students of our University should form one or two sets of lancers on that occasion, those taking part being dressed to represent the characters in the works of some well-known novelist,—George Eliot, for instance. This communication was well received by the society, and a motion was passed giving the executive committee the right to appoint our representatives.

The musical program was unusually fine. Miss Annie Webb, sister of Miss Mabel Webb, '98, gave the opening

solo. Her voice was new to many members of the society and was much appreciated. Miss Kathleen Mullins read a selection from our quaint old friend, Artemus Ward, in her usual bright way. Next was a vocal duet, Mendelssohn's "I would that my Love," by the Misses Alice and Bena Roseburgh. In response to an encore they sang "Sweet and Low," which is always a great favorite. Miss Mae Dickenson sang, with guitar accompaniment, "The Banks o' Loch Lomond," and as an encore gave "Sleep, Kentucky Babe," which was most enthusiastically received. As the applause showed no signs of abating, Miss Dickenson kindly sang a third time, and gave by request "The Little Tin Soldier."

Then came the debate between '01 and Century. "Resolved, that the girl who leaves her home to attend college derives more benefit from her course than the girl who attends college in her native town." Misses McDonald and Forrest debated for the freshmen and Misses Cockburn and L. Mason upheld the honor of the sophomores.

The freshmen were victorious, although the president and secretary found it very hard to decide.

The first year girls read papers showing very careful preparation.

The second year girls did very well too, especially Miss Mason, who made a strong speech, using only a few notes as a basis.

The meeting adjourned at 10 o'clock.

* * *

Instead of being held on Wednesday of last week, the meeting of the Y.W.C.A. took place on Tuesday, on which day Miss Carson, of New York, had consented to address the students. Miss Pearce opened the meeting, briefly introduced Miss Carson as one who needed no introduction, and then delivered the meeting into her hands. Miss Carson proceeded to tell us in a charming and graphic manner of her settlement work in New York. The settlement in which she is particularly interested is situated in the heart of a densely-populated district; in a space three-quarters of a mile square there dwell over one hundred thousand people, a number more than equal to one half the population of Toronto. In this settlement the rudiments of a practical education are taught—and more than the rudiments—to girls who have had but little or no education. One girl prided herself on her good education, which was indeed far above the average of that district; she had not left school until she was fourteen. There are classes of all kinds—in cooking, sewing, dressmaking, housekeeping, millinery, arithmetic and English. The girls who attend are divided into three clubs—Sunshine, Loyalty and Sangster—according as their ages range, from seven to ten, ten to fourteen, and from fourteen upwards. These clubs are conducted on a parliamentary basis—each having its own president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer. Though there are two or three other settlements in New York, this is, I believe, the first which is conducted on a religious basis, and where religious principles are taught. The majority of the girls who are helped by it are foreigners—Hebrews and Germans, for the most part.

To give any adequate account of Miss Carson's talk would be impossible, though I feel sorely tempted to try. Any such attempt would fall very flat after hearing the original. Much—indeed I might say all—of what she said was entirely new, and being so, very interesting. An address from Miss Carson will never fail to be welcome to any or all of us. The address was concluded with prayer. Owing to the lateness of the hour, a solo by Miss Forrest, '01, was unfortunately not rendered.

On Friday, December 10th, the University Ladies' Glee Club will journey up to Hamilton to give a concert that evening in the Association Hall of that city. There seems to be an impression in the minds of some—an impression I am most anxious to remove—that this is, so to speak, the thin edge of the wedge that the Ladies' Glee Club is intending to go "touring," as it is popularly expressed. Now no idea could be further from the minds of the committee, or even of the members of the club themselves. It would scarcely be practicable, even if it were desirable, to take a club of between forty and fifty college girls on a tour through the province. It is a very different thing to go up to Hamilton on Friday afternoon and return the following morning. The concert there is under the auspices of the Women's Morning Musical Club, an organization of first rank in Hamilton, and the members of the chorus who do not prefer to stay with friends will be billed with the ladies of that club. This is no unusual or out-of-the-way proceeding, and certainly is not a tour nor the beginning of one, as it is the most earnest wish of the present management that the club never shall go "touring."

* * *

The programme of the Glee Club concert in Hamilton will be largely the same as it will be here—that is with regard to the chorus work. The artists, of course, will be different. Miss Labatt, of Hamilton, will play a piano number, and Misses Mae Dickenson and Virginia Kennedy, of the Ladies' Glee Club, and Mr. Henry Booth, of Detroit will give vocal solos.

* * *

The debates of the Women's Literary Society have always been conducted in a perfectly friendly manner, and a spirit of good fellowship. It was with the greatest regret that several of the college girls noticed a departure from this precedent last Saturday evening. Warmth of temper is as much out of place on such an occasion as warmth of eloquence is desirable. CARR, '98.

MEN'S MASS MEETING THIS AFTERNOON.

This afternoon a mass meeting of the men students is to be held in Room 3, at 5 p.m., to elect officers for the second annual dinner of University College. Last week nominations were held, and the interest taken in the coming event is evidenced by the fact that only one office, that of treasurer, to which post N. E. Hinch, '98, was elected, was filled by acclamation.

The position of president will be held by a member of the Faculty, and the other officers will be chosen from the following list of those nominated:—

1st vice, J. G. Inkster and G. M. Murray; 2nd vice, F. A. Cleland and O. M. Biggar; 3rd vice, Eric Armour and G. W. Ross, jr. Secretary, W. M. Martin, A. E. McFarlane, F. C. Harper, and W. G. Fitzgerald. Councillors, one from the fourth year, three from the second and third years, and two from the first year to be elected: senior year, G. H. Black, R. Howitt, A. W. Hunter; junior year, R. H. Mullin, J. R. Bone, A. McDougall, W. H. Alexander, McLay, Snell, Douglas, Carter; sophomore year, J. G. Fitzgerald, Telford, Greig, Flintoft, Mitchell, Clare, W. A. Smith, C. J. R. S. Scott and Kay; freshmen year, Embree, Adams, Millar, Carson, P. Brown, Burton, Malcolm, Aylesworth, McFarland, Kilbourne and Foster.

Everyone should attend this afternoon's meeting and elect the men who will hustle and make the dinner a great success.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

The society was allowed to scrutinize the periodicals in the reading-room longer than usual Friday evening, for the executive held a protracted session before the meeting began. What was done I tell no man—for indeed it hath not been told to me. When we finally invaded the hall, it was evident by the gentle and innocent expression which most of the leaders wore that there was trouble in the air, but the cloud rolled by. The president was in the chair, and seeing Messrs. Bell and Sellery in the audience, invited them to share Olympus with him; but being modest gentlemen both, and perhaps also a little desirous of being nearer anticipated bloodshed, they firmly declined. The secretary's report was a record-breaker for length; after this a synopsis should be substituted. Mr. Hobbs now rose and in all kindness made inquiry if the recent censure was not of necessity invalid as it appeared to be founded upon a mistaken idea of the constitution. Now in our present state of misery the constitution is a Saragossa Sea of sail-less, rudderless calm, and when we drift into it horror seizes upon us.

"Down dropt the breeze, the sails dropt down,
'Twas sad as sad could be;

Day after day, day after day
We stuck, nor breath, nor motion,
As idle as a painted ship
Upon a painted ocean."

But our captain came to the rescue and ruled that the vote of censure should stick until it was reconsidered, that a well-meant action, even though ethically upon a doubtful basis, was not to be set at naught. It seems probable that the whole philosophical department will be called in before the matter is settled. About this time Mr. Urquhart entered, and was accorded an ovation. As the scribe did not look round he does not know why they did this thing. Then under notice of motion, Mr. Narraway—for Mr. Donaldson—withdrew his, as its signer did not vote against the ratification of Mr. Biggar's election, concerning which matter this notice of motion was. Mr. Black also withdrew his little memorial. Now Mr. Hill rose and moved the reconsideration of the censure, advancing the constitutional doubtfulness of the measure. Mr. Hinch seconded with laconic force. The other side said never a word, but the reconsideration was out-voted. "Weren't it 'orrid of them, 'arriet?" Mr. Inkster then desired to speak his mind, but was declared out of order after having rashly said "constitution." Mr. Narraway gave him answer even unto the third and fourth clause of the censure. Mr. Docker pointed out that in 1890 the society had taken over the control of THE VARSITY. Had it since then emancipated itself? Mr. Auld thought that to hide behind our constitution was like getting behind a wire-fence on a wet day. (Great applause.) Mr. Hobbs again spoke, and called attention to the fact that not a few members of the Editorial Board of VARSITY are elected by the School of Science and the Women's Literary Society. Has this society a right to censure them? And for a time the sternest censor could not answer. Mr. Alexander, however, called attention to the fact that the where-as and be-it-therefore-resolved document censures "gentlemen," and the ladies not being therein concluded can hardly take it much to heart. Mr. Hinch now rose and told the society that he was responsible for the report. He demanded that all blame be laid upon himself alone, and that the editor be absolved as guiltless. I think most of us felt better after Mr. Hinch's straightforward avowal—the age of generous manliness is not gone by. And however much some of us may oppose the idea and

principle which he supports, I know one of us at least who regrets having so bitterly attacked the individual.

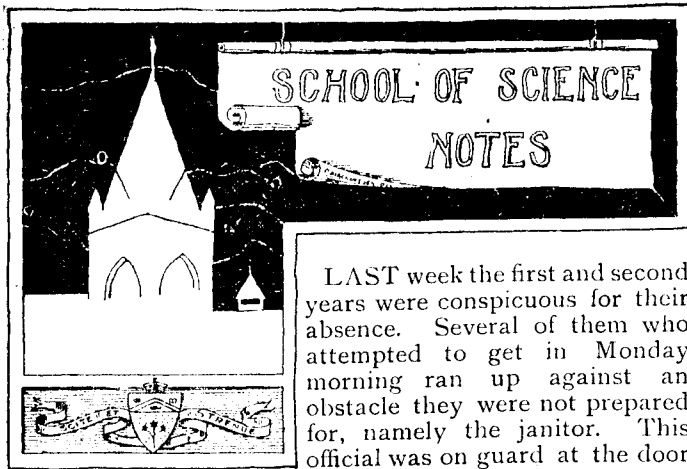
Mr. Murray being absent, the essay was "taken as read," and Mr. McLeod opened the debate. In the name of humanity he arraigned the British Government for not having protected the Armenians. He told us of the Turks who waded ankle deep in gore, of two hundred thousand massacred in cold blood. (But wait till he sees the next Lit Elections!) He also said *vox populi, vox Dei*; and, when chaff is set aside, he said much that was good and eloquent, making the best speech of the evening. Mr. Auld replied and said *vox populi vox Dei* was no such a thing. He soon showed which side he was on, and the British Empire crept behind him and was at rest. He told of a gruesome writing found in—the palace of the Preadamite Sultans was it? which showed that the hated infidel was a bad lot generally. Mr. McFarlane now made a speech which was too evidently an impromptu, but he left Mr. Merritt time to arrange his ideas. He lived up to his name in supporting the negative. He bandied with his opponents in faction and o'er-ran them with policy; and when Mr. McLeod replied he was the leader of a forlorn hope. Then the president summed up and gave the negative the victory amid general assent. This ended the meeting. FESTE.

THE STRATHROY OLD BOYS.

The Old Boys' excursion to Strathroy on Wednesday last was a most decided success. A decorated car in the train carrying about 150 old boys—and former lady residents of the town, with orchestra and college songs and a yell in concert at this station—this was the prelude and opening scene to a drama such as few towns can present. After an informal reception by the townspeople the old boys were taken to the Lyceum Theatre and banquetted and toasted till early morning. Among the old boys were the Minister of Education and Hon. Ed Blake. Mr. Blake honored the Old Boys' Club by delivering during the evening a most important speech, the first one which he has given in Canada dealing with public questions since his withdrawal from Canadian politics, seven years ago. In it he stated his desire to return to the land of his birth as soon as opportunity should arise. However, as the daily papers have given his speech in full, VARSITY readers will not be troubled with it. The old boys are to be congratulated on the success of so bold an enterprise; and special mention should be made of the work of the indefatigable secretary-treasurer, Mr. Wallace A. Maclaren, B.A., who conceived and carried out the idea. About thirty old boys, including J. T. Shotwell and G. M. Murray, still at Varsity, were at the banquet.

PUBLIC DEBATE TO-MORROW NIGHT.

In the Gymnasium, to-morrow evening, the 154th public debate of the Literary and Scientific Society will be held. Mr. Justice Falconbridge has kindly consented to occupy the chair and the University Glee Club and the Banjo Club will render some of their popular selections. The subject of the debate is "Preferential Trade," and H. H. Narraway, '98, and A. H. Birmingham, '99, will argue pro, while G. C. F. Pringle, '98, and John McKay, '99, the head men in Philosophy in their respective years, will support the negative. F. A. Cleland, the "public reader," and A. E. McFarlane, the "public essayist," will help to add variety to the entertainment. The interesting topic of discussion and the abilities of the men on the programme should attract a large crowd.



LAST week the first and second years were conspicuous for their absence. Several of them who attempted to get in Monday morning ran up against an obstacle they were not prepared for, namely the janitor. This official was on guard at the door and forcibly withstood all their

attempts to enter, except when at times he found himself outnumbered, and then he kept them out by threatening to call the police. So, seeing this opposition, the students decided that they needed a holiday until the following Monday. But the unusual freedom near the end of the term began to worry the consciences of quite a few, and when these came back a couple of days later they found that the Principal was now having his turn at the fun. He had proclaimed that none of them might return to work before the following (last) Monday whether they wanted to or not, and also that in the meantime each one must privately interview him. This was rather beyond their expectations and as a consequence their facial expression was not the most cheerful.

After all this it looks if the freshmen would from now on go uninitiated unless some other method can be thought which will be just as effective but less noisy than the one which has been the cause of all the above trouble.

The regular meeting of the Engineering Society which should have been held on Wednesday, Nov. 24th, was dropped out on account of the scarcity of members due to the absence of the first and second years.

A new department was inaugurated at the School last week by the third year, that of a tonsorial surgery, and the first operation was performed in the presence of the entire year down in the cloak room. The subject was spread on the operating bed (the lunch table), and with the aid of a pair of scissors was relieved of one half of a troublesome appendage situated on the upper lip directly below the right eye. After a consultation of the experts, it was decided that it would not be advisable to remove the other half at that time as the patient's nerves were not in a fit condition, owing partly to the unavoidable suspense prior to the operation. However, he had the other part removed on his own responsibility before returning to the school. A decided improvement has thus been effected in his appearance, besides removing the possibility of blood poisoning for a time at least.

It has seldom been necessary to complain of any particular in the management of the draughting rooms, in fact especial care is taken to have them in a good, healthy condition, but there is one circumstance that is a disgrace to the place, and that is the repeated refusal of the janitor to more frequently exchange the old towel by the wash basin for a clean one. When each of a room full of draughtsmen has to wash and then dry himself on this same towel several times a day and for several days, the state of the piece of cloth may possibly be imagined. Surely it does not cost much to have a few towels washed every week, or if there are not already enough, to buy more; and if economy is not the cause, then what is? Wherefore it is hoped that those in charge of the draughting rooms will look into the matter and have it rectified.

JOHN INKSTER IS FIRST PRESIDENT.

Two men from each of the Canadian Colleges interested in football were chosen to go to Kingston for a little Thanksgiving holiday last week. There they met to discuss the proposed inter-college league, and the result of their deliberations was the formation of the C.I.C.R.U.—the Canadian Inter-Collegiate Rugby Union.

John G. Inkster and A. J. McKenzie, B.A., were the delegates from Toronto University, and when they arrived in the Limestone City they found that Messrs. Parker and Nickle had been chosen by Queen's, and Messrs. Rogers and Sherwood by the Royal Military College to entertain them—and right royal was the entertainment. The other delegates were: Messrs. Grace and Alley from McGill, Messrs. Mowat and Rigney from Osgoode Hall, and Messrs. Osborne and Hunter from Trinity. Ottawa College would have been represented by Messrs. Gleason and Clancey, had they not gone to Montreal to play for the championship of Canada.

The advisability of forming the league was at once admitted by all, and it took but a short time to formulate a constitution and elect officers. McGill, Queen's, and Toronto signified their desire to enter senior teams immediately, and Queen's, R.M.C., Trinity and Toronto will have fifteens in the intermediate series. Osgoode delegates did not commit themselves, but there is every reason to hope that next year will see the Hall battling for senior championship honors in the C.I.C.R.U. Ottawa College however, will not be in the Union next year, although Father Fallon, the veteran coach of the Champion Fifteen, says that he considers the formation of this college league a move in the right direction. The rule restricting the players to undergraduates and graduates of one year's standing, coupled with serious financial difficulties makes it impossible for Ottawa College to place a strong team in the race for next year.

If Osgoode enters, the four senior teams will play home and home games, each club managing its own gate and taking the entire proceeds. Large sums will no longer be paid into the coffers of a central union to cover the expenses of extravagant officials, as only a small entrance fee of \$15 for a senior team and \$10 for an intermediate team will be charged.

In the election of officers, the chief post of honor was accorded to a Toronto man, J. G. Inkster, '98, being chosen President. A. T. Alley, of McGill was elected Vice-President, and J. Parker, of Queen's, Secretary-Treasurer; and these gentleman, together with Messrs. Parmenter of Trinity and Rogers of the R.M.C., will constitute the executive.

After the business of the day had been transacted the president of the Queen's Athletic Association entertained the delegates at dinner. On all hands was gracious hospitality accorded them, and all the delegates returned to their homes rejoicing in the consciousness of having done a good work and of having had a good time.

DO YOU WANT A SKATING RINK?

The Athletic Directorate are in doubt as to the wisdom of building a skating rink on the campus this winter. The association lost money on last year's rink, and if there is no prospect of receiving better support from the Hockey Club and the students generally, it is not likely that the experiment will be repeated this season. This is certainly to be much regretted, and it is hoped that the students will come forward with promises of liberal patronage, and thus induce the directorate to encourage a healthy sport by constructing an open air rink.

The Varsity

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CONSOLIDATE STUDENT SOCIETIES.

3N the early part of the term it was no uncommon thing to hear impulsive sophomores and inexperienced juniors haranguing upon the worthlessness, the decay and the impending natural dissolution of the University College Literary and Scientific Society. For some few weeks, however, the haranguers have been speechless; the liveliness displayed by the "corpse" has quite nonplused him.

The subject is by no means a new one. Anyone who will take the trouble to look over some of the old files of THE VARSITY will find in the volumes of six or eight or ten years ago letter after letter, article after article, on the "decrepit state of the 'Lit.'" Ten years ago men prophesied that within a twelvemonth the venerable old body would expire from general debility, and that the only verdict the coroner's jury could return would be "Death from natural causes." But those were days when false prophets did abound in the land. The Literary and Scientific Society is still alive—a vigorous, enterprising, merry organization.

Yet the interest manifested in the last few meetings has certainly not been aroused by the literary or scientific features of the programme. Indeed the name of the Society entirely misrepresents its character. Wherefore Literary? Wherefore Scientific? Its function is neither to be the one nor the other. When it formally renounces all such pretensions and seriously devotes its energies to the control and administration of all student affairs, the Society will then become an important factor in the undergraduate life, and no longer will there be a dearth of subjects to debate upon.

Let the Society change its name to the "Alma Mater Society," or whatever else you will. Let it strive to bring under its control all other students' organizations, and then exercise a strict supervision over their affairs. Let it be the official society, representative of all the undergraduates. Then will its deliberations be accorded that respect which they should meet with at the hands of both faculty and students, and a sufficient number of questions of real interest and importance will be forthcoming to ensure a good attendance and lively meetings.

When the Modern Language Club, the Classica Association and the Philosophic and Political Science Societies amalgamate, let the name of the Literary Society be given to them. The Natural Science Association, united with the Philosophic and the Mathematical and Physical Societies might be known as the Scientific Society. Each of them might hold weekly meetings in the afternoons, and once a month the Literary and Scientific Society might hold a union evening meeting. In this way much better work could be done than that at present accomplished by the various departmental societies and the so-called University College Literary and Scientific Society. Think it over.

Gentlemen of the Champion Fifteen—you have the congratulations of everyone in the University.

* *

Virulent abuse and sarcastic invective, unaccompanied by accusations or arguments, are as cowardly as they are evasive and as puerile as they are cowardly.

* *

Is it not a strange coincidence that the football season closes on Thanksgiving Day?

BRIGHT PROSPECTS FOR COLLEGE RUGBY.

The great advantages of an Inter-College Rugby League, which VARSITY enumerated in a recent issue, seem to have been generally recognized. The league has now passed from the misty region of possibility into the clear confines of reality.

At a meeting of the different college delegates in Kingston a week ago the proposal met with the approval of all. McGill and Queen's Universities at once agreed to enter senior teams, and Ottawa College and Osgoode Hall expressed their sympathy for the scheme, and hope in the near future to overcome the little difficulties which at present prevent them from accepting the terms of admission. Trinity University and the Royal Military College both agreed to enter intermediate teams, and a junior series also will probably be arranged. The league was accordingly formally organized, a constitution adopted and officers elected, John G. Inkster, of this University, being chosen president.

Once formed, the success of the League is assured, and hand in hand with the success of the Inter-Collegiate Rugby Union goes the success of the noble game of Canadian Rugby. The tone of the sport will undoubtedly be raised, and the charge of professionalism will no more be heard in the land.

In student affairs it seems as though the political pot will boil at a pretty lively rate before the swallows fly home again.

* *

Before another season opens let the officials of the new C.I.C.R.U. revise the Rugby rules governing the scrimmage. If the game is to remain a success it must be made interesting from a spectator's point of view, for another season such as the last will do much to destroy popular interest.

In all their controversies the students should show a spirit that is at once manly and good-natured. There was once a wise man in the East who gave our forefathers much sound advice on the rearing of children, and other interesting subjects. Among his wise sayings will be found this one: "He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city." Solomon may be a little out of date in this advanced age, but the wisdom of keeping one's temper and speaking in calmness and moderation cannot well be doubted.

RESIDENCE'S REPLY.

To the Editor of THE VARSITY:

DEAR SIR,—In the last number of VARSITY appeared an article by Mr. McFarlane on "The Present Spirit of Residence." This article is so utterly ridiculous and absurd, so petty and childish, and so full of fallacies and falsehoods that as senior man in Residence I consider it beneath our dignity to answer it, being content to leave it to the better sense of the undergraduate body to determine how much value should be placed on his tirades. But, Mr. Editor, if Mr. McFarlane will calm his heated brain, stop his Billingsgate flow of abuse and make definite charges against us in language befitting a gentleman and a senior in this University, his remarks, besides having much more weight among the students at large, will promptly receive the careful consideration of the men in Residence.

Yours sincerely,

H. P. HILL,
Senior in Residence.

INTEMPERATE LANGUAGE CRITICIZED.

MR. EDITOR:—

I am sure I am not the only undergraduate who read in last week's VARSITY a letter from Mr. McFarlane "On the Present Spirit of Residence." And I am quite as sure I am not the only undergraduate who was painfully surprised while reading that letter. I do not know how many of the students feel as Mr. McFarlane does—not very many, I hope. If after nearly four years of college life one arrives at the state of mind in which Mr. McFarlane finds himself, it is a serious thing for the University. But I do not think there is any great cause for alarm; we are not all oppressed by such heavy grievances.

But I am not going to attempt to prove or disprove any of Mr. McFarlane's propositions. It is very questionable, to my mind, whether the most of the matters discussed in his letter are worth discussing. After all many of them are very small questions. It is hardly enough to make one turn misanthrope because some one else has secured for himself the coveted post of prophet or critic of a class society. The well-disciplined mind of the Senior should rise superior to such comparative trifles.

But, Mr. Editor, what I do want to protest against is the tone of Mr. McFarlane's letter. He seems to be under the very common delusion—but surely a very singular delusion for a University man!—that argument consists in calling names. Generally when one is driven to use the pen, he states his thesis, marshals his best logic and makes his conclusions, if not inevitable, at least probable. But this is not Mr. McFarlane's method of persuading the readers of VARSITY of the uselessness of Residence. His chain of reasoning consists rather of a furious tirade of insulting names. Whether this kind of argument is a sign of the strength or weakness of Mr. McFarlane's cause, I do not propose to discuss; nor is it my intention to

investigate here if Residence is an abscess eating the heart out of University life, nor whether the Residence men, with three exceptions, are snobs, nor yet whether the editorial chair of VARSITY is to be reached "only by clinging to the tails of Residence dress coat." Some may take Mr. McFarlane's view of the matter; some others, probably, do not. But there is one point upon which we can all unite: we will be at one in demanding from the correspondents of VARSITY that they state their case with some approach to temperance of language. I would not hint for one instant that free discussion be discouraged, for it cannot be expected that we should all see alike in regard to every matter; but what I do think is, that whatever petty jealousies exist among us are much more likely to be inflamed than healed, and advance towards a united college spirit much more hindered than helped by the use of such violent terms as are to be found everywhere throughout Mr. McFarlane's letter.

Yours truly,

W. A. R. KERR.

THE DORIC ORACLE AGAIN.

EDITOR VARSITY:—In last week's issue I notice a letter from Mr. McFarlane in which he gives a passing notice to a former letter of mine, and, at the same time, gives me personally a hidden thrust which many undergraduates, unacquainted with the circumstances referred to, may misjudge. Three years ago the Editorial Board, entirely on its own responsibility, recommended my name to fill a vacancy. Instead of accepting that recommendation, the Literary Society nominated W. Shotwell, '97, whose superior ability and experience easily won him the position. As the result of such an affair the small soul of the "Doric oracle" (according to Mr. McFarlane) could only find expression in "words more of sorrow than anger" and in the "sobbing echoes of a patriarchal gobbler." Now, sir, I can state with the utmost candour that my letter was not the expression of any such "tear-stained voice," nor did the circumstance ever enter my mind when the letter was being written.

Again, the writer blames me for calling the Literary Society to account for not accepting the editor-elect of the Editorial Board. Now, I consider this not only a duty, but a right that belongs to me as a free citizen. In support of my position I would cite the action of the VARSITY Board two years ago, when it drew up a constitution exactly along these lines. Further, at the last meeting of the Literary Society, the president allowed the so-called "vote of censure" to stand only on the grounds that the recitals which *might* have been understood were of more importance than those actually stated. Thus I deem it my privilege to stand up for a body which I believe is acting strictly in accordance with the laws that govern it.

In the same letter he indirectly brings an accusation against me in his criticisms of the Class Executive and the Year Book Board. Now, sir, I would like to ask him if he means to insinuate that the gentlemen elected to these positions were put there in any hole-and-corner way. As one who was present at the class elections and who acted as scrutineer I am in a position to state that such insinuations are utterly groundless. If such a sinister motive inspired the writer, surely it is very unfair to the electors, and especially to the officers, for I am very sure there is not one of them who would not readily resign in favor of anyone who is prepared to do his thankless work. Then, with regard to the Year Book Board. Its members were elected in accordance with the constitution of the class and I may say that several of them, myself among the number, accepted the position after many refusals and with much reluctance, because I can assure you now from experience that the work, which is very heavy, is not at all of an inviting nature.

I regret that Mr. McFarlane should have written his letter in such a fault-finding and defiant spirit, couched in bitter sarcasm. True, it is a cleverly executed piece of literary work, but such productions are seldom called for and little calculated to do much good, especially in the journal of a university. Such productions are more characteristic of a Scotchman born and bred in the Highlands fifty-five years ago than the son of a Highlander living amidst the advantages of a country so large in every respect as to induce its inhabitants to rise above the faculty of standing and looking at a glorious and progressive work, contenting himself with the puny expression "I emphatically protest." In fact, Mr. McFarlane's attitude, like that of a good many more undergraduates towards those who are willing to do the work, reminds me of a story told by Ian Maclaren of an elder in session, who on being repeatedly called to order by the moderator, replied, "I would like to know what's the use of being a Scotchman and a Presbyterian if I can't object." Sentiment, as a rule, is pretty light, and when expressed only in words is still more worthless. What this University needs is more men to put their shoulders to the wheel and help on enterprises calculated to do good, or to substitute others, and not to pick flaws, which is a very easy matter.

Truly yours,

[NO. G INKSTER.

HOW IT HAPPENED.

EDITOR VARSITY:

In defence of the position taken in my letter of the 18th ult., and in reply to Messrs. Howitt, White, and Jackson, I beg to submit the following: Anyone who attended the meeting of the Literary Society on the 12th Nov. cannot fail to admit that party spirit was greatly in evidence there, and that those who "earnestly desired to see Mr. Shotwell accorded the honor" instead of Mr. Biggar, had flocked to that particular meeting for the purpose of turning Mr. Biggar out to make room for Mr. Shotwell. Will some one who attended that meeting deny that it was "packed," and for that purpose? To say, as Mr. Jackson does, that "it is a well-established practice in the Literary Society that after one election takes place, party lines shall disappear," is to attempt to veil our eyes from the truth. Party lines have never disappeared since I have attended the Society; Mr. Biggar has always held to the party to which I have always had the honor of belonging, and Mr. Shotwell has always been with the other party, and none of those who favored Mr. Shotwell have ever been with us except Messrs. Narraway and Howitt. Taking these facts into consideration, I consider my position tenable when I maintain that the attempt to substitute the name of Mr. Shotwell for that of Mr. Biggar was a party move pure and simple. The stormy discussion preceding the vote to set aside the chair's ruling had made it evident what this move was to be, and if Mr. Howitt had not seen this, and also that his vote was needed by his party to beat back the rising tide of opposition, then he must have been much blinder than the rest of us. I do not maintain that the exact vote in question was a want of confidence one, but we all knew it was but the precursor of the one Mr. Narraway had unsuccessfully attempted to move a few moments before. Was it not a party question when our party had accepted Mr. Biggar's election by the Editorial Board, and when all the other "units" responded as one, "whole" with the "unique" exception, I maintain, of Mr. Howitt. That vote was a straw showing which way the wind was blowing, and every man's vote was needed to maintain the position we had taken. Publicly to charge a man with dishonorable conduct is a serious matter. I considered then that Mr. Howitt should in honor have voted to sustain the chair, and I think so still. I repeat, he was elected as a party man, and that he could fail to respond

when his party was in "such sorry straits," is proof enough for me that he had got out of touch with the party. Messrs. White and Jackson view the matter superficially without looking at the inner workings of the case, and so the whole fabric of their constitutionally argued letters falls flat. Their premises are wrong like those of that mad "vote of censure." If it has hurt Mr. Howitt's feelings and those of his friends to make public mention of his vote in VARSITY, then I am sorry, and beg humbly to say that I thought he was not ashamed of it. As for the festering felicities of "Feste" on the present spirit of Residence, they are their own best cure. They need no comment, for instead of breaking that egg against a wall he broke it upon his own head. Poor boy, what will he felicitate next? I have the honor to be, Sir,

Yours very truly,

N. E. HINCH.

MISS HALL'S PROGRAMME.

President Black, of the Glee Club, has just received from Miss Marguerite Hall, the Boston artiste who will sing at the Club's annual concert, a list of the selections wherewith she will tickle the ears and delight the taste of Toronto's music lovers. Miss Hall will appear three times during the evening, and will render the following numbers:—

- I. (a) "Oh, Listen to the Voice of Love" . . . *James Hook.*
 (b) "Nymphs and Shepherds" *Purcell.*
 (c) Phyllis *Dr. Arne.*
 (d) Dance Song *Handel.*
- II. (a) Litaney *Schubert.*
 (b) Widmung *Schumann.*
 (c) Frühlingelied *Mendelssohn.*
- III. (a) Sérénade Printanière *Holmés*
 (b) Ma Voisine *A. G. Thomas.*
 (c) Bolero *Thomé.*

The complete programme of the concert will be published in next week's VARSITY, and if programmes and musical reputations are any criterions, the concert in Massey Hall a week from Tuesday evening should certainly be one of the best and most successful ever held in this city.

The first of the examinations for the McCaul Gold Medal in classics will be held in a couple of weeks, and the students who intend to compete are now busy "plugging" at their texts. Miss F. E. Kirkwood, who has held first place in the department throughout her course, will probably capture the medal this year, but W. J. Elder, who stood second last year, topping the list of second-class honor men, and P. W. Saunders will also write on the examination. Other members of the class may join in the race, when the date of the first examination comes round.

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CHAMPIONS OF CANADA.

On Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 25th, the Britannias of Montreal, Champions of Quebec, and the Varsity Intermediates, Champions of Ontario, played on Varsity campus for the Rugby Championship of Canada, the Varsity fifteen winning by a score of 25 to 11.

Shake, Ross!

Shake, Tanner!

Champs of Canada!

Varsity on top again!

It was a grand game!

Such a crowd for such a day!

Hurrah for the Blue and White!

Such passing, kicking and running!

Every member of the second team, shake!

Here's looking up to you, Champions of Canada!

Beal's work at full-back was wonderful for such a young and diminutive player.

The "Brits" swept everything before them in Quebec—and Varsity swept the "Brits."

The gate receipts on Thursday, in spite of the pouring rain and cold piercing wind, amounted to \$169.75.

"Deacon" White is, in truth, an old reliable. His work both at quarter and outside was sure and very effective.

It is almost the universal opinion that Varsity II. plays the best and most scientific ball that has been seen for years.

Varsity's Champion Intermediates are no more out-classed by the Ontario Senior Champions than Hamilton is by Ottawa College.

Capt. "Art" Tanner deserves the fullest praise for the way he has stood by the team. He played the game of his life this season.

"If Varsity II. could only keep together for another season they would show the best in the land a thing or two," so says Eddie Bayley.

"Eddie" Beatty was very unfortunate in the game. He had his ankle severely sprained, and the doctor gives him ten days yet to get well.

Throughout the season Varsity II. scored 191 points to their opponents 51, or an average of 32 to their opponents 9. This is pretty nearly record scoring.

The "Brits" are a plucky, fast aggregation, who know the game thoroughly and will fight to the finish, as was shown by their splendid rally towards the end of the game.

McMordie showed himself to be one of the best centre halves in the business. He caught, kicked, ran, bucked the line, and passed to perfection. His tackling also was splendid.

If Varsity could always play with as gentlemanly and as sportsmanlike a city team as the Britannias, there would be no necessity whatever for the Inter-College League on that account.

When the finals are played off on Thanksgiving Day it always rains on Thanksgiving Day; when the game is postponed to the Saturday, the weather always makes a nasty exhibition of itself then.

Varsity's scrimmage, with "Nick" Hinch at centre, can show the best of them how to scrimmage the ball.

Revell, Stoddart and Scott did splendid work on the line. In fact the whole wing line played a hard, fast game.

Such pluck as Ryan of the Britannias showed has rarely been equalled on the gridiron. He had his jaw and two fingers broken during the game, and played for fully half an hour, till the whistle blew.

Below is the record of the Varsity II.:

1. T.A.C. Lornes.... lost.... 6-15.
2. T.A.C. Lornes.... won.... 27-10.
3. Osgoode II. won.... 60-6.
4. Brockville won.... 7-4.
5. London won.... 66-5.
6. Britannias won.... 25-11.

It will be seen by the following list of weights that Varsity II. has somewhat the advantage over the Britannias.

Varsity II.—Beale, 130; McMordie, 165; C. McArthur, 145; R. McArthur, 155; Beatty, 140; Hall, 180; Hinch, 153; Smith, 178; Tanner, 176; Ferris, 165; Revell, 166; Telford, 172; Stoddart, 163; White, 142; Scott, 165. Average, 159½.

Britannias.—Marshall, 145; Rankin, 143; McKenzie, 137; Brown, 138; Bisailon, 168; Christmas, 145; Barry, 148; Brown, 142; Ryan, 165; Reynolds, 140; Radford, 150; Masson, 165; Conrad, 185; Vipond, 150; Roberts, 172. Average, 152½.

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 County Model School examinations begin.
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 14—Written examinations at Ottawa and Toronto Normal Schools, begin.
 22—High and Public Schools close.

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CORRIDOR CULLINGS.

Victoria Conversat to morrow night.

Ross Gillespie is steadily improving at the hospital.

N. T. Johnston spent Thanksgiving Day in Guelph.

The Natural Science Association met yesterday afternoon.

Public debate to morrow night. Everyone should be there.

A week from Friday will be "Constitution night" at the Lit.

Go to the Y.M.C.A. this afternoon. Dr. Tracy is to be the speaker.

The Mulock Cup series will be brought to a close on Saturday.

One of the popular girls of '99 gave a very enjoyable party last Monday evening.

John Grampion went to Montreal on Thursday last to see the championship game.

The Mathematical and Physical Society held its regular meeting Tuesday afternoon.

Miss Margaret Stovel spent Thanksgiving Day in Brampton with her friend, Miss Scott.

The Chess Club met Tuesday afternoon to complete arrangements for the annual tournament.

Nick Hinch treated his friend Captain Tanner to one dollar seats at the Grand, Saturday afternoon.

On Friday evening Geo W. Ross, jr., the manager of the II. Varsity Rugby team, entertained at dinner the Inter-

mediate Champions of Canada, at his home, 1 Elmsley Place. A most enjoyable evening was spent, and all voted "Billy" not only a hustler and a thoroughly capable manager, but, also, a right jolly good fellow.

Some of the modern language men in the senior year intend to spend their Christmas holidays in Toronto writing their theses.

Next Wednesday afternoon the Ladies' Glee Club will hold a full rehearsal, at which Mr. Harold Jarvis will be present.

Vivian Alexander, '01, who was called to the bedside of his dying mother in Grimsby a couple of weeks ago, has returned to college.

This week the Literary and Scientific Society received an invitation to send a representative to Queen's Conversat—Who's to get this plum?

The intercollegiate debate between Osgoode Hall and Trinity will be held this evening. A splendid programme has been prepared, and the evening will be brought to a close by a little dance.

RUDYARD KIPLING.

Those who heard Professor Morse Stephens here last winter will not fail to attend his lecture in Association Hall on Saturday. Professor Stephens' special sphere is history, the history of the French Revolution, but on Saturday he will lead an excursion into the confines of poetry. For three centuries the family of the eminent Cornell professor has been connected with India and mixed up in Indian affairs, so that he is eminently qualified to speak on the

subject of "The Poet of British Imperialism." There are few lecturers that possess a more interesting style, and it would be hard to name a more interesting subject than the poems of Rudyard Kipling. The lecture should be all the more liberally patronized because the proceeds are to go towards the Woman's Residence.

MORE PEDAGOGUES.

Unfortunately VARSITY's recent list of Toronto University graduates attending the Ontario Normal School in Hamilton, was not complete. The paper's correspondent, being of an erratic nature, sent the names of only half the Toronto students there. Another correspondent has kindly completed the list, the added names being Misses E. J. McPhail, B. H. Nichols, M. Sinclair, A. E. Tennant, M. Hills, L. Sherwood and M. O. Eastwood; and Messrs. G. F. Calling, J. M. Martin, C. Brown, Wilson and Graham. All these were in last year's graduating class. There are a few, however, who graduated in '95 or '96, and among these are Misses Cawthorpe, Langford, Heal, Riddell, Graham and Wickham.

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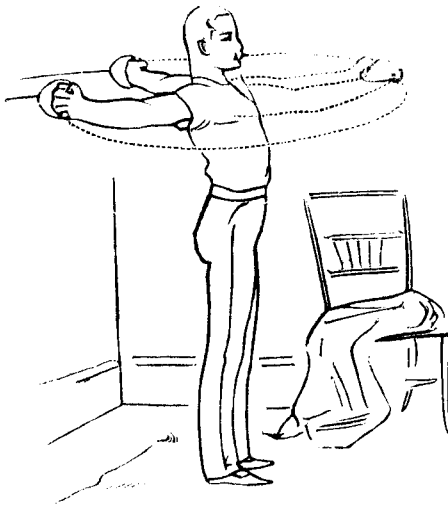


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