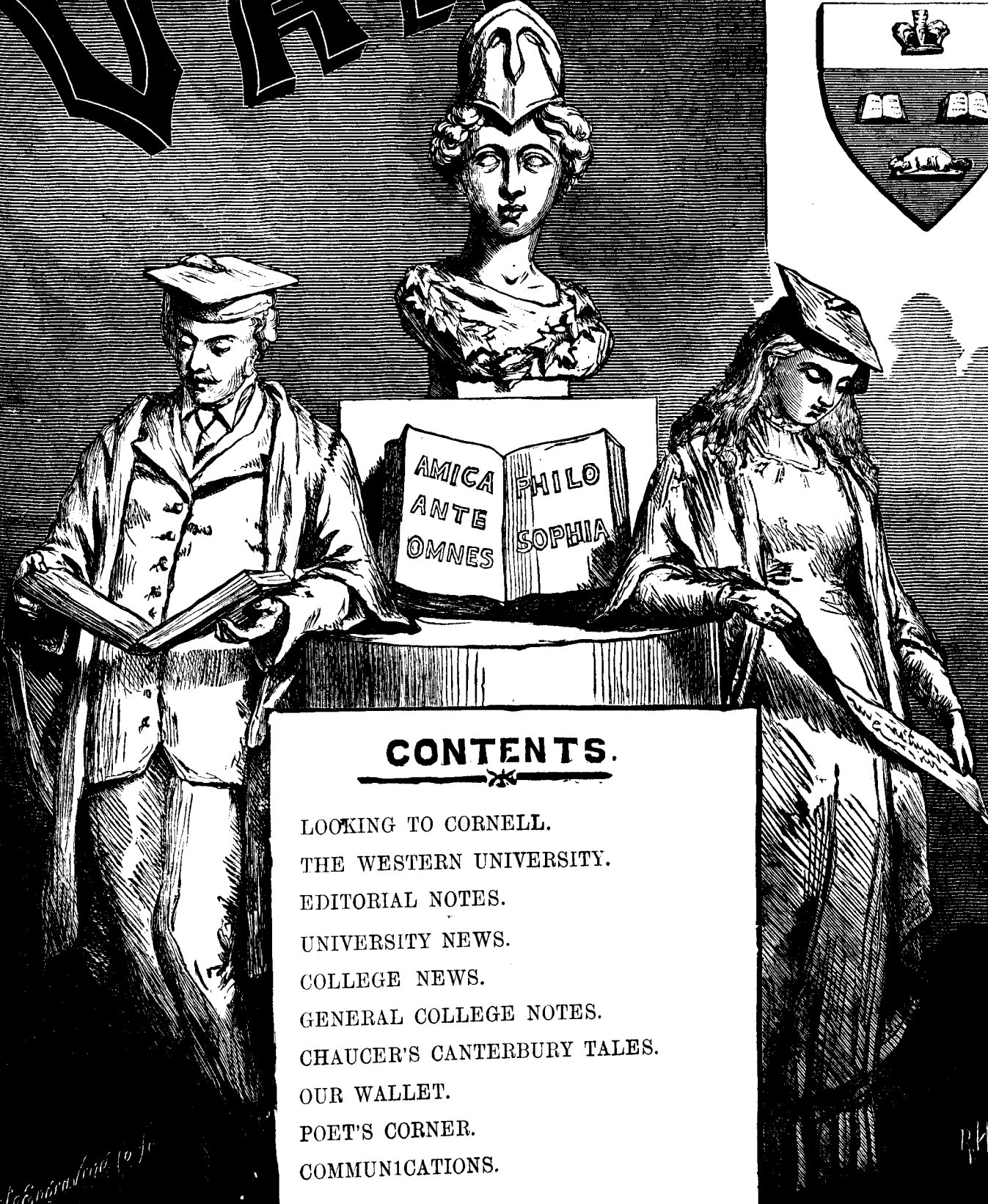


# THE WARSTORY



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University of Toronto, Feb. 2, 1884.

Communications.

To the Editor of the VARSITY.

DEAR SIR,—I have only just now seen a copy of your editorial on the Western University, as contained in the VARSITY of December 1st, 1883, and I hasten to send a brief reply, feeling assured that you will, in a spirit of fairness, publish the same in your next issue.

As one who took an active interest and leading part in the inception of the Western University, I may perhaps reasonably claim to be thoroughly conversant with all that took place, and in justice to Bishop Hellmuth, I beg to say that you have been grossly misinformed in regard to his Lordship's course in the matter of the sale and purchase of Hellmuth Boy's College property for university purposes.

In the first place, the university movement did not originate with Bishop Hellmuth, but with certain of the Alumni of Huron College, and when the Bishop was first approached on the subject of the property, he stoutly refused to part with it for that purpose, knowing full well what motives would be assigned him by an uncharitable public, and he gave his consent only after much pressure, there being certain reasons why Huron College property could not be utilized for that purpose at that time.

With regard to the price paid for the property by the university, perhaps the following quotation from a document prepared by T. W. Thomas, Esq., the well-known banker, will help now, as then, to form an estimate of the value thereof:—"Whereas the founder and proprietor of the London Collegiate Institute, desiring to make the same a proprietary institution, with the view of securing its perpetuity, has submitted to us the books exhibiting his disbursements connected therewith, which shows an outlay amounting to not less than sixty-six thousand dollars expended by him in the purchase of lands, erection of the building, and in furnishing it so as to accommodate one hundred and fifty boys; and this exclusive of any consideration for his labour and time, or any expenditure incurred by him prior to the opening of the Institute, A.D. 1865. Signed by Mayor Evans, T. W. Thomas, D. Macfie, John Carling, Rev. A. Sweetman, G. Foster, Rev. H. J. Grasett, E. Baldwin and others.

The original cost of the property was therefore...	\$66,000 00
Subsequent additional buildings cost about.....	7,000 00
Increase of value of land at least .....	27,000 00

Making a total of.....\$100,000 00

The wear and tear was offset by the difference in the expense of building between 1865 and the present, but a reduction was made from these figures of the sum of \$33,000 00, and the price was fixed at \$67,000.00, the value being confirmed by the price of adjoining lands.

As to the disposition of the \$67,000.00, the sum of \$22,000.00 was required to pay off a debt which has been incurred, owing to the institution having been run at a financial loss during the last few years. The remaining \$45,000.00 belong to the stockholders, and as secretary-treasurer of Hellmuth Boy's College Corporation, for the then time being, I beg to say that I received from the University, the whole amount collected for the purpose during my term of office, and distributed the same to the several shareholders, each one receiving his share *pro rata*, along with the Bishop, and I very much doubt if any shareholder ever even offered the small remainder of his stock at 50 cents on the dollar. In any case it could only involve a question of a very few dollars.

In view of these facts alone, I think it will be admitted that the attack on Bishop Hellmuth was entirely unmerited, and in his absence open to strong exception by his friends. Opposition to the Western University was of course expected, and has been received in a very goodnatured sort of way, but an accusation of wrong, doing is quite another affair.

With reference to the course which our present excellent Bishop will pursue, I am unable to state what his intentions are, not having spoken with him on the subject, but owing to the fact that London is now the centre of a population of over a million of people, and that the impracticability of university consolidation is now very generally admitted, the conclusion is made, that the people of the west must have a university. If the Church of England drops it, other bodies of Christians are waiting to take it up.

As to the two properties being held for university purposes, such was never the intention. The Huron College property has been for some time in the market, awaiting a suitable offer.

Let me refer in conclusion to what seems to me to be a misapprehension in regard to the denominational character of the Western University. While the *Caput* must remain Church of England, yet

students, in all departments except divinity, may belong to any denomination, and be received on equal footing, and in the medical department there are at the present time lecturers holding different faiths, including Roman, Presbyterian and others.

I am, sir, yours very truly. J. W. P. SMITH, Rector of Christ Church. London, Ont., January 21st. 1884.

To the Editor of the VARSITY.

DEAR SIR,—I notice in the VARSITY of last week an article entitled "Football in University College," which, though presumably written with no unfair intentions, gives a very one-sided account of the development of the game in past years. As one who had some part in the establishment of the Association game, I beg to offer a few emendations. I agree with the writer of the article, in saying that the old University game was unsatisfactory; but I do not admit that it was a go-as-you-please game. The shades of Fletcher, Clements, Spotten, Boyd and others, I am sure, would protest against any such epithet. The rules were clear and well defined, and the system worked well, so much so that on one occasion, at least, the club refused to change them for either of the present games. There was, however, one defect; no other club played under those rules. Hence it was unsatisfactory and was changed, and the change was made to the Association game in accordance with the wishes of the majority of the players. During the first year of the Association *regime* the game was played with marked success. But some had a preference for Rugby, and were of course entitled to a hearing. No one, however, thought of the most sensible plan—that of forming two clubs to develop both games. In the first meeting of the autumn of '77, I think, the question was brought up again. The meeting was held very early in the term, and many members had not returned. Some of those who had returned did not know of the importance of the meeting. I can easily imagine the enthusiasm with which the Rugby rules were adopted at the meeting. It occurs to me to imagine a similar enthusiasm when a meeting of our senate in days gone by decided to divide up the endowment of University College, and distribute it among the denominational colleges. The fact is that neither side perceived the necessities of the situation. These were, that both games should be taken up. Mr. Cummings and myself, although not present at the meeting, were placed on the committee for the year. We resigned, and in consequence of numerous representations from the friends of the Association game, called a meeting and continued the old game. I will not discuss the legal point as to which club had the right to be called the proper University College club. Suffice it to say that our meeting was the larger and more representative. Any person who had anything to do with football, at that time, will remember how difficult it was to get a thoroughly representative meeting, and how unsatisfactory it was sure to be, if obtained. As well call a meeting of carpenters and bricklayers, to decide whether all carpenters and bricklayers should work at carpentering and bricklaying alone. We are told that "the victory remained in the hands of the Unionists," but it must surely have been a very barren victory that gained less than thirty members for the Rugby club during that year. This I had from a member of their committee. I know for a fact that during that year they seldom had anything like enough for two teams on the field. The Association subscription list for that year, which I have before me, numbers 79 members who had paid their fees, and fully two-thirds of these were active members. Our field was always overcrowded, as it most generally is now. We are also told that they gained the *moral* support, due to being able to adopt the name of University College Football Club; but some details are wanting. The details are these: The undivided club of the previous year was called the University College Football Association. We kept the name and fully two-thirds of the members, the remainder called themselves as above; hence they were entitled to priority of right to the ground! Thus it was that we "virtually acknowledged defeat by starting another club." The name of a club is sometimes significant, sometimes it is not. In this case it certainly was not, as the numbers show. As regards the bitterness and jealousy of the clubs, I know little of it beyond our surprise at the preposterous assumptions of a few private members of the Rugby club, in claiming all the ground for practice. We, at any rate, had no cause to be jealous during that year, and desired only to develop our game. The proposal of a joint committee made in the following year, by Rugby men, met with little opposition from us and was carried out, but I don't think it ever met, as there was no use for it. Since then I am glad to know that Rugby has increased in numbers and renown. Turned from a universal empire to an earnest working for excellence in its own line, it deserves its proud record of the past season, and stands as a good example for the Association club to follow.

Yours truly, JAS. McDUGALL.

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# THE 'VARSITY:

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF

EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY POLITICS AND EVENTS.

Vol. IV. No. 15.

Feb. 2, 1884.

Price 10 cents.

## LOOKING TO CORNELL.

In several late numbers of the *Week* there have appeared some thoughtful references, by 'Bystander,' to the University Endowment question and the voluminous discussion to which it has given rise. 'Bystander's' experience has been such as to warrant a reasonable expectation of reliable criticism upon all subjects of educational interest. And when he expresses a fear that if we do not soon build up in Canada a University equipped in proportion to the growing requirements of higher education among us, our young men will pass by our own Universities and Colleges and leave the country, to seek elsewhere the training they cannot get at home, his remarks contain a warning that it would be well for all of us to heed. At the present moment, that warning deserves special attention.

The standard of our system of education, from the lowest to the highest stages, has steadily and rapidly risen. The number of the youth of the country in a position to avail themselves of the training our high schools afford, and actually taking advantage of their opportunities in this direction, is year by year markedly increasing. And this branch of our so-much-vaunted system has of late made rapid strides towards perfection of discipline and instruction. With this improvement in numbers and in thoroughness, in the intermediate stage of education, and with the growth of wealth and of the educated class among us, or the class desiring of young men continuance completing, at the University, that training for whose attainment they have the requisite time and means. With this, the place of the University becomes ever more important, and its influence more widely-spread and more generally appreciated. But the University is not yet a fixed and perfect institution; it is not so in the oldest countries, and is farther from perfection in those countries where it may still be considered almost a luxury. As the demand for the enjoyment of its advantages increases in urgency, so, in equal or greater proportion, does that demand show a constant increase in fastidiousness. Thus it must happen, as with us, that if the Universities at home fail to offer to our young men the desired thoroughness of equipment, they will not hesitate to seek it elsewhere.

This is fast becoming our position here. Many of our graduates consider the course in a Canadian University in need of a supplementary course in one of the Universities of England, Scotland, Germany or the United States. And why? Because there they can find institutions furnished with all the facilities that wealth and refinement can procure. 'Looking to Cornell' (in the words of 'Bystander'), they can see, almost at their own door, an institution richly endowed, with a numerous and able professorate, well supplied and modern library and laboratories and, for every purpose, accommodate such as hitherto we have not been able to afford. The natural result is obvious. If we continue much longer our 'Looking to Cornell,' or Oxford, Edinburgh or Berlin, we will see our brilliant men becoming educated foreigners, and Ontario without a State University worthy of that name.

There are those who can see no objection to the young men of this Province seeking abroad the perfecting of their academic education. Apart from those who still worship at the distant shrine of an effete aristocratic monarchism, and with a caddishness miscalled liberalism or cosmopolitanism, love every country but their own, there are not wanting among us those of sterner and more democratic mould, who, on grounds of economy, would willingly allow the highest and most import-

ant stage of our educational system to be controlled by foreign countries. We are glad to think that such views do not mirror the better opinion of our people. We believe that the mind of Ontario is here thoroughly protectionist; that there is growing with us in this regard, an *esprit de corps* which is genuine and trustworthy; and that our people, seeing themselves being left behind in the race, will spur on to recover or maintain their prestige. No enlightened and unprejudiced person can fail to see the advantage of having in our midst a University worthy of our *status* as a people. No one can lose sight of the fact which the history of University nations has taught that the University furnishes the leaven which leavens the whole lump of national enlightenment. A centre of learning in the midst of a people is the most fruitful source conceivable of knowledge, patriotism, national pride and independence. The youth of our country could have no more potent spur to studious application than the prospect of the fullest education of their natural abilities by academic culture. The ramifications of the pride which such a possession fosters, spread with growing energy and life to every class of society. It is all-important, then, for us to consider how we can acquire this possession.

The people of Ontario have in their midst a Provincial University which can rightly boast of having done noble work in the past, and of being able, with the necessary means provided, to continue that work in a correspondingly thorough manner in the future. If the University of Toronto fails to educate four hundred undergraduates as efficiently as she once could educate thirty or forty;—if there is more mediocrity to be found in the seventy graduates who now go out from her walls yearly than was once to be found in ten;—it is not because her professorate is less enthusiastic or less able, or her revenues less efficiently managed, but because both have long since become insufficient. Our needs, growing yearly more marked and more difficult to satisfy, have been over and over again made apparent to all. We look to public opinion for a thoughtful attention to the warning that if we continue our 'looking to Cornell' or to any other foreign institution, some such institution may come to be in reality 'the University of Ontario.' And we look to our Legislature, the embodiment and representative of that opinion, to see to our educational requirements. Additional University endowment has, with our growth, become a necessity. The liberal supplying of it should be looked upon as a national pride and a national privilege. The neglect of that attention is neither more nor less than a breach of public duty.

## THE WESTERN UNIVERSITY.

The public has already been given so fully, on more than one occasion, our views concerning the Western University, and the policy pursued in its establishment, that we are reluctant to again revive the subject. A letter, however, from a gentleman who has been prominently connected with the University, and published in this issue, necessitates bringing the matter up once more.

We must preface what we are about to say by repeating a remark already made in this connection, that we have not the slightest personal animus against either the late Bishop of Huron or the University. We have expressed ourselves adversely to it, for general and in this case special reasons. Also, a grievous error was, in our opinion, committed when it was granted a charter. Our desire is to discuss the question from the standpoint of impartial criticism. If we have been unjust we are

quite willing to acknowledge our error, but any charges made must stand until satisfactorily refuted. We have not written unadvisedly, and have been careful to substantiate our statements by evidence that has seemed to us conclusive.

Canon Smith states that the Bishop did not initiate the organization of the Western University. We are quite willing to accept his statements on this point, but we still believe that whoever initiated it, the Bishop took the leading part in carrying out the scheme, and through his energy alone the institution has made the progress it has.

Our correspondent gives us a statement of the cost of the Hellmuth College property, certified by men of unquestioned integrity. We must, however, regard this as irrelevant to the question in point. Every business man knows that the cost of a building is no criterion of its value. We stated that we believed the Hellmuth College property was sold to the University at a price largely in excess of its present value. If Canon Smith can give us the names of some of the gentlemen he mentions as certifying that the property could now, in their opinion, be sold for the amount named first, this, and this alone, would disprove our assertion.

Our correspondent further states that he received the moneys paid by the Western University on account of the purchase of the property and distributed them *pro rata* among the shareholders of the Hellmuth Boys' College. It is satisfactory to know this, but until he can also show that the Bishop was not the chief stockholder of the Hellmuth Boys' College our argument based upon this point remains unanswered. We are aware that, as a matter of fact, overtures were made by the Bishop to at least some of the stockholders of the Boys' College, and that the shares were sold to him at fifty per cent. of their face value.

We have been in error on one point. A hasty reading of a clumsily worded Act gave us the impression that, by the amended Act, all graduates of the University must be members of the Church of England. The amendment, however, only provides that this must be the case with all graduates who are members of the corporation. Notwithstanding this, however, the institution is strictly sectarian, as all members of the governing body must belong to the Church of England.

Some have accused us of waiting until the Bishop left this country before making these charges. The simplest answer to this is, that in our issue of October 28th, 1881, the charges were substantially made. They were repeated in April 21, 1883, and again with some additions on December 1st, 1883. The first two appeared long before the Bishop left the country, and we published the last on the appointment of the new Bishop, as we believed that the crisis in the life of the University had then arrived. We have not gone out of our proper sphere to make a personal attack on the Bishop, we have been exceedingly loth to criticise his conduct at all, and have only done so in its relation to the University. We shall be as glad as anyone to know that the charges are unfounded.

On broader grounds than the special objections we have mentioned do we oppose the University. Every new University charter granted is an additional obstacle in the way of one national University, and is therefore to be opposed. We have always entertained the hope that those interested in higher education in Ontario would see their way clear to joining in establishing such a University. We are pleased to observe by the recent utterances of Principal Nelles, of Victoria, that the scheme is beginning to receive favorable consideration from the outside colleges. We trust the day is not far distant when our educationalists will agree that the only way to secure a uniformly high and efficient standard of education is on this plan.

Meanwhile we cannot but think that the continuance of such a University as that established at London is most inexpedient. It is not necessary to repeat our objections to Universities established on the principle it is. We believe, however, that their multiplication or continuance will be fatal to the best interests of education in the country.

## Editorial Notes.

At a recent meeting of the Directors of the 'Varsity, Mr. H. Langton, B.A., was elected to fill the vacancy in the staff caused by the resignation of Mr. A. H. Campbell, B.A. Mr. Campbell's resignation was received with much regret. No one has been more indefatigable in the cause of the paper, and no one has done better work.

Friday, February 15th., will be a field-day among University men. The Executive Committee of Convocation will meet in Moss Hall at 12 o'clock, and Convocation at 3 o'clock; and the Banquet will take place in the Pavilion of the Horticultural Gardens at 7.30. At the meetings of both Convocation and the Executive Committee important business will be discussed; and it is expected that the occurrence of the Banquet on the same evening will cause an increase in the attendance of country graduates. A meeting of Convocation in the afternoon is a new feature, and ought to be a successful one.

The members of the Glee Club at present have their hands very full. They sang at Streetsville on Friday last, they give a concert at Brockton on Tuesday and one at Richmond Hill on Friday, and they will of course perform at the *Conversazione* in the week following. The Club shows a most laudable degree of energy in undertaking so much, but it is to be hoped that the concert in Convocation Hall will not be made to suffer by their numerous outside engagements, and that due attention is being paid to the selections there to be presented.

The Residence having established its name for giving a most successful dance in connection with the *Conversazione*, the committee find themselves besieged with demands for tickets. The dance is held in the dining-hall—a room altogether too small for the purpose, and the authorities find it necessary, accordingly, to limit very strictly the issue of tickets. There are those who think that the cloistered seclusion of Convocation Hall should not be disturbed by such frivolity. If their objections could be got over, and the dance held in the Hall, we are sure that the Literary Society's entertainment would be a much livelier and more enjoyable affair. At present, only a very small proportion of the guests of the Society can partake in the festivities provided, and a promenade through draughty corridors, with an occasional snatch of music, is certainly a small inducement to offer to those invited. The concert in the Hall need prove no obstacle; it is over in time to allow dancing to commence at a reasonable hour. Altogether, we think that such an addition to the programme as is suggested would be most advisable.

Some time ago we referred to the somewhat unsatisfactory state of the Literary and Scientific Society. Our remarks elicited considerable correspondence, and a number of remedies were suggested. Under the circumstances, it was decided to set aside the first meeting of this term for devising means of bringing the Society into a state of greater efficiency. Among the numerous schemes of amendment, one, introduced by Mr. Cosgrove, was finally adopted. It provides for the division of the Society into two parties, one always supporting the affirmative of the set subject of debate, the other the negative. The difficulty of hitting on a principle of division was obviated by exhibiting a list of subjects; those whose principles and sympathies placed them in consonance with the affirmative view of all or the majority of the subjects, attach themselves permanently to the party designated 'Affirmative.' Similarly, those taking the negative view. No member of either party, however, is debarred from advocating the position that seems best to him. All that is required is, that on the whole he be in accord with the party to which he is attached. Four leaders are appointed on each side, one from each year. Their duties are to ensure a good attendance, to bring out all available debating talent, to collect and disseminate information on the subjects of debate, and in general to further the in-

terests of their party. All further meetings this term are to be 'open'—the leaders being responsible for all the speakers except the two named by the general committee. Should it be felt that a subject has been inadequately discussed, owing to want of time, or if many are desirous of speaking on it again, such subject may, on motion regularly carried, be resumed at the next regular meeting. The experiences of other societies has shown that this expedient is accompanied with great success; the debates of the second evening being as a rule more forcible, interesting and instructive than those of the first. We believe that this approximation to parliamentary procedure, strictly within the limits of the constitution, will be attended with success. It cannot fail to stir up a wholesome emulation. With good leaders and real live subjects for debate the scheme will probably produce as great a measure of success as the Society is capable of attaining, under its present unsatisfactory constitution.

University News.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

At eight o'clock the President took the chair. The meeting opened with about fifty members present, and others coming in, rapidly swelled the audience to about one hundred and twenty. The consideration of the many proposed changes in the constitution was proceeded with, and received vigorous discussion. The rule of order regarding the interruption of a speaker was modified to suit parliamentary procedure. Mr. Bowes' motion to abolish the prizes of the Society was debated at length and lost. Mr. Roswell proposed that graduates should be required to attend four meetings in order to vote at the general elections. Mr. Stevenson moved in amendment that they should be excluded merely from voting on the undergraduate officers. The meeting was of the opinion that if graduates do not take sufficient interest in the Society to attend its meetings, they should not have the privilege of voting for its officers, and adopted the motion.

Mr. Holmes withdrew his motion regarding the mode of conducting elections, when the first clause to increase the number of polling-places was lost.

In a lengthy speech, Mr. McKenzie advocated his scheme of embodying the 'other' societies in a general literary society, but after some discussion withdrew the motion in favor of Mr. G. W. Hylmes' amendment to appoint a committee to consider the scheme, and confer with representatives of branch societies. The amendment was adopted, and the President and Messrs. Stevenson, B.A., McKenzie, G. W. Holmes, Cosgrove, Bowes, L. P. Duff, Weir and Cronyn were elected to compose the committee.

The uniformity with which the same gentlemen rose to speak on each question, seems to suggest the existence of a Stock Company for debating purposes. Two of the members made no less than twelve speeches of considerable length.

The unconscious pun of a "fellow" graduate on the feasibility of increasing the fees met with a better reception than it deserved. Noise and interruptions seem to be becoming the characteristic of the ordinary as well as the public meetings of the society.

MODERN LANGUAGE CLUB.

A German meeting was held in Moss Hall on Tuesday evening, at which Mr. Squair presided. Mr. McMechan read an essay entitled 'Heine, Leben und Poesie,' and was followed by Mr. McPherson with a reading—'Der gute brave Mann.' Selections from 'Faust' were rendered by Messrs. Sykes and Robinette. Part of a scene from 'Wilhelm Tell' was read by Messrs. Smith, Young, and Rowan, after which Mr. Keys favored the Club with an address in German.

The next meeting will be devoted to 'Henry V.' All students are cordially invited to be present.

THE CONVERSAZIONE.

The following gentlemen have been appointed by the Science Association and by the Mathematical and Physical Society, to act with the general Conversazione Committee—

Science—Messrs. Wood (convener), Kendrick, Shutt, McKenzie, Durand, Hammond, Roche, Dewar, Hardie.

Physical—Messrs. Mulvey (convener), McQueen, Bartlett, Gray, Brown, Martin, Thompson, McDougall.

THE COMPANY.

There will be a meeting of the members of K Company on Monday next at 4 p.m., in order to re-consider some of the affairs in connection with the proposed dinner.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

In spite of the disagreeable weather there was a large turnout of the students on Wednesday afternoon to hear Mr. Blake's address. The meeting was held at the usual time and place—Moss Hall, 5 o'clock. After the regular opening exercises, the president introduced the speaker, Hon. S. H. Blake, Q.C., who spoke as follows:

'At the Mildmay Conference in London I heard a most interesting account of the Y. M. C. A. work in Oxford and Cambridge by two delegates from those universities. The secret of the widening influences of such organizations is aggressive work. To be a success Christian work must be aggressive. The most melancholy thing is to have written over any one the final mournful epitaph "It might have been." The following striking passage is from the diary of Dr. Lowden at the age of twenty. "One third of my life gone, and what have I done for my fellow-man?" That is the secret—Responsibility. Every one who has made his mark in the world has done so by early accepting his responsibilities. Here are three remarkable instances; Clarkson was riding one warm day from London to Cambridge; the thought came to him, "Slavery is a disgrace to my country." His life-purpose was formed then, and he never gave it up till he saw it accomplished. So with Shaftesbury and Raikes. Their life long devotion to their individual work, in the one case to the poor of his own land, and in the other to the establishment of Sunday Schools, was owing to their early accepting their responsibilities. God says, "I give to one, one talent, to another five; I am a just God. I require but one talent in the one case and five in the other, but I do require a return to be made." In connection with this is a passage from 1 Kings xx. 13; where God had some work to be done. Ahab was troubled by Ben-Hadad. The Syrians had come up against him like dust. His gold and his silver, his wives and his children are to be surrendered to the pomp and pride of the King of Assyria. But a voice says "Stop." God is to deliver His people. And how is it to be done? "By the young men of the princes of the provinces." They were only 232 in number. The first thought is, God had cast the work upon young men because, as the apostle writes, "ye are strong." They have great capacities for evil but also for good. This is a call to us all. Everyone's influence is so great. We either help to ennoble or degrade those around us. No man liveth to himself. The second thought is in the twentieth verse. "And they slew every one his man." That means individual effort. This is the way that all things are done. Even in such every-day occurrences as the establishing of a bank or a building company it is one or two that do all the work. Each one has his neighbour to influence. Each one is responsible for the next one. There are places in life where we have slipped and fallen; we can tell those coming after us of them, and though the warning is received with a laugh, yet it is often like the arrow shot into the tree that the woodman found in cutting it down after many years. Then there is so much evil influence at work, a sapping process going on continually, till one day there comes a great downfall, like sapping at Hell-gate in New York Harbor for six years and a half, and when all was ready the touch of a child on a button cleared away thousands of tons. Such a process is going on with the young men around us. We can help them with our sympathy and kindness. God give us grace and open our eyes to see our responsibilities, and let us understand what our object in life really is.'

QUICQUID AGUNT.

Conversazione affairs are going on smoothly; the various sub-committees have got into working order, some of them having already completed their arrangements.

The committee meeting on Friday was long and protracted, chiefly on account of the consideration of the list of invitations and of the price of the tickets. It was finally decided that about 320 complimentary tickets be issued, and that the ordinary tickets be \$1.75 per set. Mr. McLeod was appointed convener of the reception committee, to draft volunteers for that arduous work



from the conversazione committee. There are to be no chemical experiments this year. The next meeting of the committee will be in Moss Hall, on Tuesday next, at 5 p.m.

Influenced no doubt by the recent fight in Albert Hall, between Gilmore and Hurst, and by Gilmore's victory, a boxing class has been formed from the College. Lessons are given twice a week by Mr. Gilmore at his rooms down town. As this class is now full, and others are desirous of learning the manly art, we believe another class is being formed.

It is about time the attention of the Postal authorities was brought to the irregularities in connection with delivery of papers here. Papers sometimes remain at the office a week before being delivered here. Either the postman who now delivers the letters ought to be dismissed, or an assistant provided.

Splendid pictures of the University may be had from our courteous and enterprising bedel, Mr. McKim. There are two different views. One from the front of the main building, and one from the side. They are well taken and not expensive. While Quicquid was getting one the other day, he could not help noticing Mr. McKim's fine collection of black thorn sticks. Our fighting Editor has been coveting one ever since.

A little more steam in some of the lecture and reading rooms would be more acceptable these cold mornings.

We are sorry to learn that Mr. Hugh Davidson, of the fourth year, is laid up at his boarding house with typhoid fever. We hope to see him around again soon.

The tickets are now ready for the banquet which takes place on the 15th February inst., and may be obtained from the representatives to the executive committee.

It is remarkable that the only institution about the College that has an assistant Treasurer is the Y.M.C.A.

At the last First Intermediate Law Examinations, the three Scholarships were all taken by University men. Messes. Bristol, B.A., Swartout and Kilmer, B.A., were the lucky winners.

Trinity holds its annual Conversazione next Thursday. A large number of University men are grateful for invitations.

The Glee Club will sing at an entertainment at Richmond Hill next Friday evening.

#### QUICQUID QUERIES.

When is Mons. Pernet's successor to be appointed?

If it would not be as well to have class pictures taken now than about examination time, when everyone is hard at work and cannot spare the time?

If Webb knows the average appetite of the University student, or if Professor Hutton could give him any points?

Whether the members of the Legislature at the Conversazione will think Convocation Hall is large enough?

What has become of that excellent institution, the Forum?

#### ROTTEN ROW.

No centipede appetizers have been discovered during the last week in Residence hash.

The Doctor's Christmas tree, though late in the season, was a grand success.

Some of the fourth year men are thinking of becoming Residence waiters. They say they find by experience they can have better meals, more freedom, more leisure for study, and a better time generally.

### College News.

#### TORONTO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

The first meeting of our society was held last Friday evening, the 18th inst. It was an open one. There was no discussion upon subjects pertaining to medicine, but instead of our usually dignified and learned programme some of our ambitious ones succeeded in stealing a night to entertain their friends (lady friends of course) with a literary treat. We were a little solicitous as to the result of the venture, but are pleased that it was so nearly a success. We hope, however, that in future the society will not forget the object of its organization and waste its valuable time by introducing a feature totally foreign to the attainment of that object.

After the meeting, referred to above, had completed its delib-

eration a large number of students concluded to show their respects to our popular obstetrician Dr. Odgen, who has lately taken unto himself a wife. He was serenaded in medico style, and after addressing the visitors for a few minutes, practically proved that love holdeth the purse strings, by handing over to them an X. What was done with it your correspondent cannot say, but we have no doubt it was all duly expended.

Dr. Patterson, we are pleased to state, is again attending to his duties in connection with the Hospital. The familiar face of Dr. Draper also beams upon us again.

Mr. Sam. Stewart, late of the C. P. R. medical staff, has returned. He seems to have fared well and speaks in high terms of the country.

We are sorry to learn that Mr. J. W. Clerke is seriously ill at Brooklyn. We wish him a speedy trip to convalescence.

Things are very quiet around the school at present; everyone is talking about his approaching examination, and we suppose is working hard for it.

Dr. Oldright commenced his course on Sanitary Science on Monday. He expresses himself as highly pleased with the increasing interest evinced by the students particularly and the public generally in this important branch of prophylactic medicine.

The regular meeting of the T. S. M. Medical Society was held on Friday evening last, the 25th inst. After the usual business of the society had been attended to, R. A. Reeve, B.A., M.D., read a paper upon the physiology and hygiene of the eye. Numerous views of the Normal and Pathological Histology of the eye were exhibited by means of the sciopicon and camera obscura. The paper was intensely interesting to students, inasmuch as from the amount of use the eyes receive in reading they are apt to be neglected, and often prove to be affected with near-sightedness or perhaps something worse. Dr. Reeve is a person who has taken no little interest in the students, and who is most deservedly popular with them, and we were glad to see on the above occasion the theatre filled from the orchestra to the gods with professional men and students of both colleges.

At the next regular meeting Mr. Bascome will read a paper on 'Indigestion.'

Representatives of the banquet and conversazione committees are busy canvassing, and we hope that the Toronto school will show the respect they bear towards the Provincial University by attending one or more of these.

During last term a large amount of money was collected for books, to be placed upon the shelves of the library, but so far nothing has been heard of the needed books. The term is fast passing away, and it is likely from all appearances that when the class of '84 receive the honors due to graduates, the shelves of the library will be as empty as they are at present, and one class more will have passed out of the school without receiving the full advantage of the fees they contributed towards the society and library.

We had hoped, from the ringing of hammers and clanging of pipes recently heard in the lecture rooms, that some new mode of heating was about to be introduced, but alas! it was only some reforms in connection with the gas supply to the chemical laboratory.

#### TRINITY MEDICAL SCHOOL.

The meeting of our Society last Saturday evening was a great success, both in point of members and in the varied and pleasing programme presented. The proceedings opened by a chorus from the students, which was, as usual, well given.

Before the Debate commenced, the Dean said he believed there had been some discussion among the students as to whether any of our number should marry without obtaining the consent of his fellow-students; he thought the Faculty also ought to be consulted on this important subject. (It appears that one of our students, during the Xmas holidays took unto himself a help-mate. We therefore take this opportunity of wishing him life long happiness.)

The debate on Typhoid Fever was then opened by Mr. G. A. Bingham, who, by his remarks, showed he had given the matter careful and close attention. He discussed the question:—Is the disease communicable, and in what manner? Is there such a thing as a Typhoid germ? He gave the causes which produced the fever, viz: mal-nutrition, bad drainage, water, &c. Also the symptoms, delirium, &c., also certain facts that might be noticed in connection with the disease; for instance, the regular rising of temperature in the evening and lowering in the morning.

He concluded by saying that some might hold Typhoid was not a debatable subject, but he thought, and was sure the majority were with him, that the subjects in medicine not debatable were very few and far between.

Mr. Lake, followed, answering the former speaker, as to how it is communicable: by drinking water which contained Typhoid germs, (supposing such germs to exist), breathing the air impregnated with these germs, by excreta coming in contact with drinking water, by the clothing of Typhoid patients, the water from the washings of these coming in contact with drinking water, &c.

Mr. Williams contended, that if there was a germ, it would take a certain time to develop before it could convey disease. A healthy man may inspire a few germs without hurt, and he did not believe this fever could be developed in 24 hours after breathing in of germs. He believed Typhoid Fever was caused by germs from excreta.

Mr. Logan considered Typhoid Fever was invariably taken from a case or cases of this disease; he did not believe decomposing sewage was the cause.

The Dean in summing up said he approved of such discussions or debates, and from his experience he believed the bulk of Typhoid cases resulted from drinking contaminated water. He, however, maintained he had contracted a very mild form of the fever, by visiting his patients, but experience proves that contagion is very low. He could add nothing new, as the subject had already been exhausted by the debaters. As a precaution, he would disinfect all excavations, keep the air of room clear and fresh, and if possible place the patient in a large room.

The President then called on Messrs. Brown, Gillespie and Lockhardt for a song, which was offered in good form, receiving an *encore*, in response to which was rendered that touching little ditty "Please give me a penny," which was probably even more pleasing than their first piece.

The discussion was resumed. In response to numerous calls Dr. Teskey made some remarks. He complimented Mr. Bingham on the care and study his paper exhibited, also the other gentlemen who had taken part in the discussion, and the Dean, whose experience rendered his ideas almost beyond question. We gain our information regarding this disease from chemical observance, from post mortem marks, &c. Typhoid follows, generally, in districts where we have had previous malarial disease. The great weight of the disease generally rests in the blood and muscular system. He discussed the germ theory, also other theories held in regard to it.

Mr. Shaver recited "The moneyless man" with great effect, and in response to an *encore* gave a humorous story of a German and his troubles.

Mr. Farrar sang "Terrence O'Reilly" in good style; in response to an *encore* he excused himself on the ground of having a bad cold. The proceedings terminated by a hearty chorus from the boys, and all went away feeling that they had spent a pleasant and profitable evening.

The piano is back and the students make good use of it in practising new songs. There will be a large sleighing party of nurses and medicos from the Hospital on Wednesday evening; we hope all will enjoy themselves.

#### McMASTER HALL.

The Theological Society held its regular meeting last night, the subject for debate being 'That the new historical criticism with regard to the Old Testament is on the whole beneficial to Christianity?'

A herd of cattle strayed into the yard at the beginning of this week. The College augur says that this has an important bearing on the Higher Education of Women, for if the dumb brutes seek admission to our Colleges why should we any longer hold out against the fair charmers who share man's joys and increase his sorrows?

The Fyfe Missionary Society met on Wednesday evening, the principal business being to discuss proposals for missionary work in the North-west next summer.

Certain of the residents of McMaster Hall will soon be in a position to issue challenges to the neighboring Colleges for competition in toffy-making.

It is currently reported that a University graduate, at present studying theology, has succeeded in obtaining the little answer which has made so many men happy. We wish him joy.

## General College Notes.

Ann Arbor has a Political Science Association.

Of the 1,474 students at Oberlin, 776 are ladies.

The elective course at Harvard embraces 148 subjects.

Harvard is thinking of changing its four years' course to three.

Ten "Japs" and one Armenian represent Asia in the University of Michigan.

There are one hundred and ninety college papers in the United States.

John Hopkins University supports five journals devoted to original investigations.

Drs. McCosh and Osborne have articles in the January number of the *Princeton Review*.

Football must go. So says a council of presidents, which recently met in Boston for the discussion of such topics.

The Ladies' Literary Society of Nebraska University have adopted the following motto:—"Arma virumque cano."—*Ex.*

A subscription of \$23,000 has been raised at Yale for a Young Men's Christian Association building, to be erected on the campus.

Matthew Arnold lectures once a year at the Cambridge University, England, and by so doing holds his professorship in the university.

At Williams College, on the night of the president's reception to the senior class, some students stole all the refreshments provided for the occasion.

A Druidic university has been established in New York City for the purpose of instruction in the arts, sciences and philosophy of the ancient Druids.—*Ex.*

The president of the Add Ran College, Texas, has prohibited the young ladies from wearing bangs, as this fashion is supposed to retard the progress of students in their studies.—*Illini.*

The University of Missouri is erecting a new building at a cost of \$100,000. The new chapel when completed will seat 1,800. The old audience hall will be divided into two society rooms, having a capacity of 600 each.—*Ex.*

The following is the circulation of the leading American college papers: The *Dartmouth*, 1,030; *Tuftsian*, 1,000; *Yale Courant*, 850; *Yale News*, 650; *Lampoon*, 700; *Harvard Advocate*, 450; *Athenaeum*, 600; *Princetonian*, 725; *Amherst Student*, 625.—*Ex.*

The number of years a medical student must study before he obtains a degree, is, in Sweden, 10; Norway, 8; Denmark, 7; Belgium, Holland, Italy and Switzerland, 6; Russia, Portugal, Austria and Hungary, 5; England and Canada, 4; United States, 2 or 3; and Spain, 2.—*Ex.*

### CHAUCER'S "CANTERBURY TALES."

A granger took his son to market-town one day, by way of reward for his having worked hard recently. While the father was talking to the shop-keeper, the lad spied a cheap Bible on the shelf for sale. He timidly asked his rich old relative 'to buy that book for him.' 'Wh—what do you want o' that book?' gasped the father in unfeigned amazement. The boy summoned up sufficient courage on the spur of the moment to answer, 'I tell you what, dad, there's a heap of good readin' in that book.' It is so with Chaucer. When I was a boy I had heard about the Canterbury Tales, and wondered what they were like. So, saving up till I had amassed sufficient of the 'needful,' I invested in a Nimmo's Standard Library edition thereof. The first surprise was that I so readily understood his old English; I recognized many old familiar friends in words I had heard in the vernacular of the old settlers, such as 'axe' for 'ask,'—not to mention rhymes that had the recent slang 'passengair' termination.

The fact that Chaucer was a spring poet became patent in the very opening lines of the Prologue. *Apropos* 'spring poets,' why need paragraphists in the contemporary press try to wax so witty about those poor unfortunates that perpetrate verse? I cannot think a poor man merits to be lynched on the nearest

lamp-post just for making a little innocent doggerel. While he is writing verse he is at least out of worse mischief; and the attempt to be tuneful, whether successful or not, tends to teach appreciation of such intellect-quickenng, immortal work as that under consideration. Chaucer shows us vividly what folks were like five hundred years ago, and yet how wonderfully like in nature to folks we all know are the people of the Prologue!

Chaucer himself is the most interesting. His most noticeable characteristic is at once patent; the keen penetration of his understanding manifests itself in the celerity and ease with which he becomes acquainted with the Tabard's other guests:

'And shortly when the sunne was to rest,  
So had I spoken with them every one,  
That I was of their fellowship anon.'

He evidently possessed enough personal magnetism to have made his fortune as a politician, and we are not surprised when we are told that he sat in Parliament.

His naive verse is in style at once jocose, colloquial, familiar, and delightful.

'A knight there was, and that a worthy man,'—

the picture of chivalry; and what an improvement upon Cœur-de-Lion, than whom he is by two centuries a better Christian.

— 'He was worthy, he was wise,  
And of his port as meek as is a maid.  
He never yet no villainy he said  
In all his life;'

and hence, accordingly, the tale he told is chastity itself; yet, odd to say, a trifle tedious and insipid.

'His sonne, a younge squire,  
A lover, and a lusty bachelor,'

was apparently a unique antique specimen of a "freshie," for

'He was as fresh as is the month of May;  
Short was his gown, with sleeves long and wide.'

That parody upon Litoria last term would seem to parallel—

'He coulede songes make.'

Fitly, his unfinished tale is one of love:

'And say somewhat of love, for certes ye  
Conne thereon as much as any man.'

His is that tale of which wrote Milton—

'Or call up him that left half-told  
The story of Cambuscan bold.'—*Il Penseroso*.

More probably an error of copy for

'The tale of Cambuscan, the bold,'

than that Milton mistook the metre, else the accent.

The Yeoman with his 'nut-head,' 'with a brown visage,' tells no tale (save metaphorically), for he is not the Canon's Yeoman that does such yeoman service in disclosing the alchemist-cheat. A dear old maid the Nun Prioress is, to be sure—

'Her mouth full small, and thereto soft and red,'

prettily puckered, too, doubtless. What an exquisite touch of a master-hand is seen in the ultra-polite manner of the Host's approach to her prim delicacy,—

'As courteously as it had been a maid;—  
"My lady Prioress, by your leave,  
So that I wist I should you not grieve,  
I would deeme that ye tell should  
▲ tale next, if so were that ye would,  
Now will ye vouchsafe, my lady dear?"'

And how immutable is human nature! Elderly ladies now-a-days delight to turn to that department of the newspaper which chronicles the deaths, marriages, etc.; so, as one might have expected, the tale of the prude Prioress partakes largely of pious horror,

'O Alma redemptoris mater!'

Residents who read so hard and cram so fast as to acquire the title of 'fast' men should note how Chaucer indorses the opinion of the Monk,

'And I say his opinion was good,  
Why should he study and make himself wood (*i. e.* mad)  
Upon a book in cloister always pore?'

The Monk's tale is long and learned (as times were then) and

is borrowed from Boccaccio. These ancient authors borrow unblushingly.

'A Friar there was, a wanton and a merry,  
Somewhat he lispèd for his wantonness,  
To make his English sweet upon his tongue,  
His eyen twinkled in his head aright  
As do the starrès in a frosty night.'

Evidently there were dudes too, in those old days.

'Of double worsted was his semicope,  
That round was as a bell out of the press.'

Craik's note on this couplet is, 'Not understood. Is it the *bell* or the *semicope* that is described as *out of the press*?' I beg to suggest that '*bell*' should be spelled '*Belle*;' then that it was *round* when *out of the press* becomes comprehensible.

The Friar and the Sompnour resemble Samson's foxes, for betwixt their two tales they set the fierce fire of satire to the reputation of the contemporary clergy. It should seem that then as now

'Twas the vice of the times  
To relish those rhymes,  
Where the ridicule runs on the parson.'

Aristocratic Don Chaucer had not the pleasure nor the privilege of knowing the plebeian merchant's name.

'But, sooth to say, I n'ot how men him call.'

Yet he amply atones for this slur by allotting to this same man of merchandise, one of the very prettiest and most fanciful of all the stories. Pope modernized it under the title of "January and May." Shakspeare paralleled its elfish folk in his "Midsummer Night's Dream." All men, married or otherwise miserable, might profit by its perusal. Time and space would fail me to comment upon all the Canterbury characters. Every one of them is so replete with that which merits attention, that we are evermore saddened at the recollection of the fact that Chaucer's death left the poem only a fragment. What a lamentable list might be made of the princes of poesy who left their greatest works incomplete. Virgil, Chaucer, Spenser, Byron, and Burns, Poe, Shelley and Keats, all died too soon.

Chaucer all through is characterized by cheerfulness, often rising into merriment. He satirizes all monkery without mercy, and pokes all manner of malicious fun at matrimony.

The Parson is the first protestant in English Literature. Most refreshingly redolent of farm-home and pastoral life is that metaphor, in which his opinion of the priesthood lies couched.

'A shame it is, if that a priest take keep,  
To see a tag-locked shepherd herd clean sheep.'

He is the model after which Goldsmith fashioned his parson in the 'Deserted Village.' The line,

'Allured to brighter worlds and led the way,'

parallels Chaucer's clumsier couplet,

'But Christe's lore, and his apostles' twelve,  
He taught, and first he followed it himselfe.'

The wife of Bath was an undeniable daisy.

'Alas, alas, that ever love was sin.'

'Patient Griselda,' the Clerk, or Student's Tale, is from Petrarch's version of Boccaccio's story in the Decameron. Was there ever such a wife? Surely it is not to be hoped—it is but little to be feared—that there exists any such now. The pagans sneeringly said, 'What wondrous wives these Christians have!' but to untutored me meek Griselda seems to have been quite too utterly without spunk. She seems an Italian medieval ideal imported from the Orient.

Chaucer, the poet, in his own tale, talks prose, just for a change, the jolly Host having recalculated, *i. e.*, I mean, kicked vigorously at his first attempted unspeakable doggerel. The Host was truly in himself a host. The Miller and the Carpenter tell two of those universally relished stories with plenty of humor and human-naturalness in them. Prudes are forewarned by Chaucer 'to choose another tale;' but did any of them ever do so, I wonder? In Swinburne, Oscar Wilde, and other fleshly moderns, appear signs of a reaction against the absurd extremes to which this classic-emasculating modern purity has gone since Byron's death. In Charles II.'s days similar causes brought a reaction parallel to what may be ex-

pected—to a more moderate degree, let us devoutly hope—in modern literature.

Some of Chaucer's couplets are startling; witness this one at the beginning of the *Mancipster's Tale*:

'Wert ye not where there stands a little town,  
Which that y-called is Bob-up-and-down?'

The Parson's Tale is a specimen Wicliffite sermon, wondrously Methodismal in tone. It affords, as does all Chaucer, a deep insight into the manners of men and customs of society in those falsely dubbed 'good old days.'

The concluding prayer or Retraction of Chaucer smacks suspiciously of a spurious interpolation by the too holy hand of some copying monk, for we must not forget that Chaucer lived and thought and wrote and died nearly a century previous to the invention of printing. So that when he says in the opening line of his 'Good Counsel,'

'Flee from the press and dwell with soothfastness.'

he does not mean, as it might seem, to caution adolescent authors to avoid the line-lacerating type-teeth.

O. A. N.

### Our Wallet.

#### INCONSISTENCY.

Oh! Edmund E. Sheppard,  
Democracy's child,  
About Monarchies, you  
Often get very wild;  
You should not indulge  
In such ravings, I swear,  
Till you shave from your chin  
That "Imperial" you wear!  
If you don't, why the people  
Will laugh, my dear Ed.,  
At the curious spectacle  
Shown by your head;  
While your *lips* denounce Monarchs  
As being too thin,  
You support an "Imperial" goatee  
On your *chin*!

—ERIC.

#### DRIFTING.

Out in the gloom on the sea  
Drifting so fast,  
Only the sail flapping drearily  
Against the mast.

Out to the wide world-sea  
We drift without rest,  
Only the heart beats wearily  
Against the breast.

We know not the eyes filled with longing  
That watch you and me,  
As we drift away in the darkness  
On the world and the sea. —FREE LANCE.

The prophetic Williams thus exhorts the young man of the present day: "Stay, my lord, and let your reason with your collar question."—Henry VIII. Act I., Sc. I.

Quotation for the Toboggan Club: "Through the ice and deep snow the Cimbri used to climb up to the tops of the hills, and from thence, placing their broad shields under their bodies, would let themselves slide from the precipices along their vast slippery descents."—Plutarch, *Marius*.

The meditative smoker surveys the last inch of his weed and thus delivers himself: "My cigar has reached its bitter end."

The sermon of a prominent minister that recently came into the possession of a scoffer was annotated along the margin thus: "Deliver this passage in solemn tones;" "Scornful smile after the word 'never';" "Pause long enough to count twenty-five after this passage;" "Close Bible with violent slam after this passage;" "Contemplate ceiling in attitude of adoration at this point;" "Sarcastic wave of hand," etc. And yet ministers declaim against the theatric art.—*Chicago Inter-Ocean*.

Mudie's famous circulating library in London occupies eight adjoining houses, and gives employment to eighty persons. Its importance to the reading Englishman is shown by the fact that it circulated 2,400 copies of Macaulay's History of England, 2,000 of Livingstone's Travels in Africa, 2,500 of "Enoch Arden," and 1,500 of "Lothair;" and that it circulates 6,000 of the *Edinburgh and Quarterly Reviews*, and 100 copies of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*.

O, beauteous Taddle, gently flows thy stream,  
And through its limpid surface grass and rushes gleam,  
The tall trees bending o'er thy peaceful flow,  
Are mirrored in thy dimpled face below.

We love thee when the morn of Spring awakes,  
And birds are twittering in thy leafy wakes,  
And oft thy sweet seclusion in the summer's heat,  
Is grateful to the stifled brain and dusty feet.

When trees are clothed in Autumn's brave array,  
We love to see thee go thy quiet way,  
But more when Winter's frost thy tides enclose,  
We love thee then—in pity for our nose.

### Poet's Corner.

#### ARS AMATORIA.

Poets and amorous swains have sung  
In every age, in every tongue,  
The charms of female beauty;  
Which, if received with gracious mien,  
So much the sweeter makes, I ween,  
That very pleasing duty.

Dipping their pencils in sunniest tints,  
Their heroines range from those in prints  
To those in silk and satin.  
Idyllic forms, by Tennyson,  
Mingle with many a humbler one  
By Horace sung, in Latin.

Some praise the form, and some the face,  
Some sing about the subtle grace  
Imparted by some creature.  
Now, it's the eyes; and now, a tress;  
Here, rose-red lips; there, charm of dress  
Suggests a fairy creature.

Some long to be the jewels rare  
Worn by the ones they deem most fair,  
(Such lengths goes amorous passion!)  
Thoughts like to these in poets' minds abide,  
I'm not of these;—such things are cast aside  
With ever-changing fashion.

Were it not better far than sighs,  
To be, (and who may not, who tries?)  
Some maiden's chosen lover!  
And, as they wander down life's varying way,  
Each, in the other, will, from day to day,  
A jewel rare discover.

—ERIC.