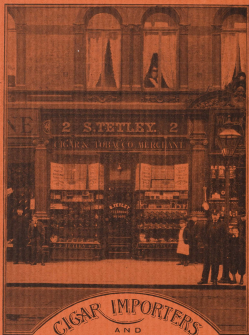


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# THE GRYPHON:

THE JOURNAL OF THE YORKSHIRE COLLEGE.

Vol. I.

MARCH, 1898.

No. 3.

## Editorial Notes.

SINCE our last issue, the College has received from the Worshipful Company of Skinners, a very munificent gift for the special use of the Leather Department. A sum of £5,000 is to be expended on building, and the Company further promises £250 per annum for the support of the Department. We shall hope to give further detail in a future number.

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We are very pleased to note that our pages are at last honoured by a contribution from an old student. Let us hope that the good example of "F.C.G." will not be set in vain. As the years roll on, we trust *The Gryphon* will attach to itself an ever-increasing circle of friends, and that it will for a long time to come form a kindly bond of union between past students and their Alma Mater.

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As we write, we call to mind many a brave fellow who but lately trod these corridors. Our greetings be wafted to thee across the waters, Leo Le G. Burley! Kind as Spring, true as steel, thou hadst the manly soul! And hail to thee, Homby, friend of mankind, leading the way to brighter worlds! There still remain within these classic haunts those who remember thy sterling qualities! Britain! our warmest wishes to thee amidst thy fumes and alchemy! Whereas thou didst but yesterday serve here in heaven, thou now dost rule in Hull. And where art thou, friend Greenwood? Dost grow thine hair still long? Many worse poets there are than thou, few kinder hearts! Can we forget thee, O Brathwaite? How terrible to the adversary was thy voice in debate! How full and ready thine advice! Hartley, rebel-

lous soul! what poems engage thee now? Dell! Ah! conical Dell! Dost remember how thou didst slumber in class of an afternoon, while lecturers were murmuring thee their lullabies? Dawson, dost still smile in thy foreign land? And what is your high argument, Wilson and Miall, as ye pace the ancient academic grove? Thus the panorama of old familiar faces, with their pleasant memories, goes on. Hail to you, past students of this College! *The Gryphon* sends its warmest greetings to you all.

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We must congratulate the Literary and Historical Society on its very happy inauguration, and on the large number of its members. There was some doubt at first whether the Ladies' Common Room, where its meetings are held, would be large enough to meet the demand. The room was certainly quite small enough; but after all, we have not heard that it was uncomfortably crowded.

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Professor Grant's speech was full of humour and good sense; and Dr. Moorman made some noteworthy suggestions. As to the Beontis and Haworth (the name of which betrayed Dr. Moorman in the pronouncing), we may observe that much has been said on this alluring subject of recent years. But notwithstanding, the interest in true genius cannot easily be exhausted. "Jane Eyre," famous pioneer book! still holds its hundred thousand votaries; and "Wuthering Heights" still attracts and repels with all its wild impetuosity. Honour to thee, Charlotte Brontë, brave heart! and to thee, Emily Brontë,

Whose soul

Knew to fellow for night,  
Passion, rebuence, grief,  
Daring, since Byron died!

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Another suggestion of Dr. Moorman's was that the Society should investigate the local dialects. Of course, Dr. Moorman is well aware of the existence of the Yorkshire Dialect Society, which met for the first time last September at York, and was addressed by the Marquis of Ripon and by Professor Skeat, who is quite a fanatic in his enthusiasm for our English speech; and for the second time in Leeds this January, when scarcely twenty members could be mustered to hear the arid and somewhat amateurish papers read by two or three respectable and well-meaning old gentlemen. But the existence of a society like this, which is most useful in its way, and deserving of our highest respect, but which must almost inevitably treat dialectal problems in a superficial manner, need not prevent the Literary and Historical Society from doing some good scientific and philological work; and if Professor Schäddekopf and Dr. Moorman will only put their heads together, we are confident that such work may be done.

\* \*

Perhaps few of our readers are aware that the famous English Dialect Dictionary, edited by Dr. Wright, of Oxford (the story of whose strange and successful career—he was 15 when he learned to read, and worked in a Yorkshire mill till 21—should be known by every struggling student), which has now reached Part IV., is being taken by the College Library, where it may be consulted by any student interested in the subject.

\* \*

"The poetry of natural science," says one of our contemporaries, "was brought before its devotees at the Royal Institution in a very charming fashion on Friday, February 18th, when Professor Miall, of the Yorkshire College, discoursed upon the beauties and inner life of a Yorkshire moor." We are pleased to inform our readers that Professor Miall's lecture will be fully reported in *Nature*.

\* \*

We congratulate Mr. H. T. Calvert on his election to the 1851 Exhibition Science Scholarship, the announcement of which we have received just before going to press.

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Will our readers please remember that every contribution should be accompanied with the name of the writer?

## Greek Mathematics and the Modern Schoolboy.

WHAT emotions and thoughts do the words "Algebra" and "Euclid" awaken in the average schoolboy's soul? I shrewdly suspect that the emotion is painful and the attendant thought an identification of "Algebra" with, say, "Hall and Knight," and of "Euclid" with Todhunter, or say, nowadays, with "Hall and Stevens." Yes, alas, between the boards of these books lies all that he knows of these two magical words! The wonderful story of algebra and geometry is not for *his* refreshment; for him is the enforced drudgery in what must too often seem mere Abracadabra. Could he but have a glimpse, now and again, of the patient efforts, the painful failures, the strange slowness that, throughout history, mark the evolution of these sciences, he could not fail to see something beautiful and wonderful—even touching—in their rules and symbols and processes, the garnered toil of his ancestors over thousands of years; and his own failures would but stimulate to further endeavours, for would he not feel himself in the company of those great among the dead who, after the keenness of manifold disappointments, had finally won to success?

$A, B, \dots, x, y, z, +, -, \dots$  every symbol would be alive! Often the lives of two or three great men went to the inventing of each, and several generations to the popularising and perfecting of it. "Happy were boys in these days"—doubtless thinks our modern scholar—"those days when arithmetic was limited to addition, and algebra was yet unborn!" As for Euclid, does not Roger Bacon tell us that even at Oxford, in the 13th century, few were the students who went beyond Euclid, I, 5—the *Pons Asinorum*. Is our schoolboy really envious, think you, of the days when mathematics was an infant, and not yet grown stout enough to sit astride his neck, like the old man of the sea? I really think so. Then should the hurry of modern education force us, in reaction, to pause and ask—can methods be found which make ignorance a bliss?

Euclid! algebra! the very words are histories, in epitome, of mathematics. Our geometry is Greek; yet our algebra is Arabian. We are struck with astonishment that those subtle Greeks should have done so little towards the development



of algebra. The total results achieved for the foundations of a formal algebraic science, by all the schools of Greek mathematics during six hundred years, were few—even trifling, certainly of incomparably less importance than the immense stimulus they gave to geometry. I speak of a *formal* algebra, such as we now possess; for many general properties of numbers, the sum of simple series, the incomplete solution of quadratics, and theorems on irrational magnitudes (it was the great glory of Pythagoras to create incommensurables) they certainly did discover. But the statement and proof of these were either strictly geometrical (e.g., the Xth Book of Euclid) or at all events did not lead to the invention of any formal symbolism (such as  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $x^2$ ,  $x^m$ , &c.). Indeed, it may be said that Greek mathematics was mainly described in language differing but little from that in ordinary literary use; the subject matter was more difficult in nature, but its expression was literary—with few and insignificant exceptions.—Fancy dubbing *our* algebras literary!

Many are the causes assigned by modern critics in explanation of this strange failure in Greek mathematics. I confine myself to one—which is interesting and plausible, though possibly not the most significant. As a preliminary, we must know something of the simpler science, arithmetic, as it existed among the ancients. Here two distinct points demand our attention: (i) the practical methods of counting in common use among all classes, (ii) the nature of the special written signs or symbols for the numerals, in use among the learned, with the accompanying rules of operation.

Among the Greeks, Romans, and perhaps most other peoples of antiquity, counting, with the simpler operations of arithmetic (addition and subtraction), was effected by the use of an instrument, called by the Greeks *abacus* (corresponding forms still survive in eastern nations and in our own infant-schools) or by some similar mechanical contrivance; sometimes by the use of calculi or pebbles, hence the word "calculation." Into the use of these we need not enter, as the process was purely mechanical, involving, in those using it, no knowledge of its rationale, simple as that is. More to our purpose here is it to know that—leaving out of consideration earlier methods, more or less simple improvements on the obvious

and widely-used device of placing so many strokes for a corresponding number of units, thus II. for III. for three, &c., as seen in Greek inscriptions two, (even fairly modern ones) and used, with slight improvements, by the Romans, with special symbols for 5 (V.), 10 (X.), &c.—the Greek mathematicians, somewhere about 300 B.C., were in possession of a special system of arithmetical symbols. *The Greeks used the letters of their own alphabet for the purpose of designating numbers*—as did the Hebrews.

Pause to reflect on the enormous importance of this single fact, in its bearing upon a possible development of algebra among the Greeks. We ourselves, having received from the Arabians (who themselves obtained the signs from India) a special set of signs for particular numerals, viz., 1, 2, 3, &c., were at liberty to use the letters of our alphabet (a, b, c . . . x, y, z) as symbols to designate any number in general; on the possibility of effecting this, mark, rests the possibility of evolving an algebra. The Greeks having exhausted all their alphabetical symbols as marks of particular numbers, were in the unfortunate fix of having none left for the purposes of a general arithmetic, i.e., algebra. To the thoughtless it may seem easy to reply "But why not have invented new signs?" Those who appreciate—I speak with due reflection—the colossal difficulty of simultaneously inventing appropriate new symbols and popularising the use of them among the learned (for either is useless without the other), will not thus rashly reply. This, then, is one explanation of the weakness of the Greeks in algebra, and a weighty explanation, though perhaps not all-sufficing.

The writer had added to the foregoing a brief account of the precise use the Greeks made of their alphabet for arithmetical calculations, with a few illustrations; but he is informed at the last moment that it is impossible to get the Greek characters printed in time, so the matter has been omitted. This remark is given as an apology for the now mutilated character of the article, for the omitted portion would doubtless have been the really interesting item. Should any genuine curiosity about Greek arithmetic be evoked in our readers, perhaps in some future number the omitted account may be given.

B. BRANFORD.

## Students.

## I.—LADY STUDENTS.

The metaphysicians tell us that our own existence is the only thing whereof we can have certain knowledge; and perhaps this explains why each man is more interested in himself than in anyone else. As to each observer there is a special and distinct rainbow, so that each man there is a special centre of the universe—himself. As "that blackguard Heine" said (the phrase is a poor thing, but *not mine own*):—

"Each man is to himself a world, a world that is born with him, and dies with him; and under every tombstone lies the history of a world."

In a journal, therefore, that is read chiefly by students, they will perhaps be interested in reading of themselves, as they were seen by one who was himself a student, little known while at College, and now forgotten and removed to another sphere of uselessness; one who was well content to be a looker-on; who finds the game of life much more amusing to watch than to play.

The lady students may fitly have precedence; for, next to himself, man thinks most about woman. She, as it were, holds the mirror up to his self-love; and he, seeing but not recognising the reflection of his egoism, calls it by another name.

The mere male student saunters slowly to the Smoking Room—he ought, probably, to be in a laboratory; in the corridor he hears the murmur of many voices, the swirl of the tempestuous petticoat, and, not least, the tramp of many feet. Rounding the corner by the Library, he almost collides with a group of lady students, brisk, energetic, and quite evidently determined to do something. It is a curious fact, worth the attention of Mr. Welton, that at the beginning of each session the lady students, and especially the "freshmen," seem afraid to trust themselves alone in the "many-corridor'd complexities" of the College. They resemble sorrows only in this, that they come not single spies, but in battalions. With time, however, comes experience, which begets confidence. But the lady student never reaches the sauntering stage; a fact which may be due either to her innate industry, her acquired conviction of the iniquity of idleness, or to the absence of convenient pockets.

When our average student has settled down to his pipe, his feeling, if he thinks of the matter at all, is probably one of half-amused interest, not unmixed with wonder. He knows very little of women, and cannot understand what object they can have in studying, or sympathise with the hopes and ambitions beating within those severely plain dresses.

The girls he thinks he knows are superbly and delightfully ignorant, except in the oldest of all arts; but from these alone he judges of what women should be. So our Philistine goes down from College without understanding or appreciation of the lady student.

And yet, even among students, there are finer souls, who, less skilful in flirtation, less dissipated in life, know a great deal more about women, and this among other things, that the lady student is well worth knowing—indeed, have we not heard of one College where the authorities became seriously alarmed at the appreciation of lady students shown by the intelligent men?

Perhaps the more cynical men will study the lady student merely as a phenomenon—and chiefly because she is herself so free from cynicism, and forms a convenient foil to his views, real or affected. Others there are, however, who will take a real personal interest in her, and find her conversation more stimulating than the inane chatter of the good waltzer.

In conclusion, these things may be noted about the lady student; she appears to be industrious, where even hard-working men affect to be lazy. She has faith and enthusiasm, in an age when both are unfashionable, and among men who wear the white (or scarlet) flower of an aimless life. Though doubtless she has an eye to a "career," her ideas are not so frankly commercial as those of men.

Perhaps, on the other hand, she may be taxed, like nearly all women, with a want of the saving grace of humour; perhaps she gives too high a value and too narrow a meaning to "Culture" (spelt with a capital). But if these are faults, they are very venial ones in a place that is, or should be, devoted to culture, and to spreading "light, more light," over the darkness of the wilderness of Leeds and the West Riding.

F.C.G.

## A Furious Speedy Trot.

MY DEAR ARTS-MAN,

I have read your epistle describing your feelings after perusing Borrow's work entitled "The Bible in Spain." I confess to feeling surprised that such a work should have taken so deep a hold of your love, and I fear that your ecstatic ravings after reading it are in themselves quite as dangerous as the morbid sentimentalism of the Kail-yaid school of writers. Now I believe that Arts-men generally do not appreciate Science as they ought, and hence I can quite see how it comes about that you bid me quit Science with its "dry bones," and advise me to read Borrow for the purpose of "clearing away the cobwebs" from my beclouded brain. Well, Science herself, though an exacting mistress, is so full of interest that even Borrow's account of "A Furious Speedy Trot" would fail to wean me away from the laboratories when anything of interest is in progress. In the study of Nature herself, Science must ever be full of interest. True it is dry facts are ever present, but is this not the case with all branches of study? Are not, indeed, the rules of grammatical construction and all the varied subtleties of Language simply "dry facts"? Yet no one doubts of their utility when one's reasoning powers are exercised in their contemplation. So is it with Science. The "dry bones" of fact lead one to reason upon the operations of Nature, and he must be, in truth, a dead soul who can ponder over these wonders without being fascinated by them. The study of the Periodic Law, which offers so ready a butt for ridicule, is one of the many marvels resulting from the contemplation of the dry facts of chemical lore. Instead of "The Bible in Spain," read Mendeleef's "Chemistry," and you will not fail to be enchanted with the ideas which arise from the dry numerical details which led a great chemist to state his Periodic Law. Or again, look over the fields around, on the rocks, on bleak moorlands, or wade among the sea-weeds at the foot of some grim headland, and see if you do not feel a greater joyousness resulting from a study of what meets your gaze, than from simply reading an account of furious driving. For my own part, I do not believe in reading books in holiday times. Whenever custom ordains that I shall not be working in the laboratories, I go

abroad into the open, and read the book of Nature. She speaks to me at such times with far greater eloquence than any writer can speak, and I need not the delirium of a "furious speedy trot," after the fashion of chivalrous ages, to awaken pleasurable feelings.

Excitement in reading is always bad for the reader, and sensationalism should always be looked upon with suspicion. One must, therefore, exercise care with respect to the subjects read for pleasure. Now I do not think one can err greatly in choosing humorous literature as the relaxation for holiday times. Books containing episodes more or less ridiculous will accomplish more in clearing away one's mental cobwebs, than will all the load "Hurrahs" which result from reading Borrow's work. Just the sort of thing, for example, as you will find in Cuthbert Bede's "Life and Adventures of Mr. Verdant Green." This is a book wherein you will ever find a freshness in its humour. The obvious "greenness" of the hero, his curious escapades, are so mirthful that you can scarcely refrain from laughter at the very sight of Verdant's portrait; while Mr. Bouncer has a personality which you can never forget. He crops up everywhere; and he is never low spirited save when he gets "ploughed," and then his low spirits are produced at the thought that his "mum" will be sorry for his misfortune. The book is in the main a fair representation of undergraduate life at the older Universities during the "Forties, and the pictures of the "dons" of the day are those of a class of men now well-nigh defunct in University circles. Such a book as this is eloquently the thing for a holiday, and its ever-rippling humour is far better than the evanescent exhilaration which follows in the wake of "furious speedy trots."

SCIENCE-MAN.

## Notes from the Phys. Lab.

THE impressions of a new student on first entering our handsome and well-equipped Physical Laboratory are of a somewhat mixed character. He has, say, paid his fees on the Monday, spent the Tuesday in wondering and admiring contemplation of his new dignity as a member of the noble institution styled the Yorkshire College, and in looking forward with considerable trepidation

## The Gryphon.

tion to his rapidly-nearing *début*. The fateful Wednesday morning arrives, and, full of eager desire to work hard, he is somewhat astonished to find that the Professors (who, to confess the truth, fall rather short of his expectations) desire nothing more from him than the presentation of his class ticket (which we will assume he has not forgotten to bring), and then dismiss him to learned cogitation till Friday. However, he is slightly encouraged by a glance at his time-table, which he has dutifully filled in; and, according to instructions, left a duplicate with the Principal, who did not seem to want it particularly, and appeared rather embarrassed as to what to do with it. The aforesaid glance reveals to him the fact that he has solemnly bound himself to be present in the Physical Laboratory between the hours of three and five.

We will pass over his various ways of killing time till three, with the barest summary. We have all been through the same trying experience. He tries the Union Room, and waits respectfully until the easily-recognised old students have done with the "Post" or the "Mercury," and when one is finally at liberty, he is vaguely uneasy as to whether his perusal thereof will prejudice the other occupants of the room—who, he is firmly convinced, are watching him closely—as to his politics. This renders him oblivious of the printed matter before him, and he presently flees to the smoke-room—it is astonishing how soon he learns the way thither. Here he is beguiled into a game of chess with an old boy, and is somewhat amazed at his own audacity in daring to win. However, it revives his spirits wonderfully, though these are slightly damped at dinner in the College Refectory (not Rectory) by the consistent neglect of a very independent waitress, who does not apparently become aware of his presence until he has been three half-an-hour or so. After this, the clock warns him of the near approach of his ordeal—and by-the-bye, here the new student is at a great advantage over the old. Who has not seen the hardened collegiate, leaving the corridor in which he has been assailed by the varied and wonderful odours which ever emanate from the Organic Lab., turn his eyes to the left, where the clock used to be, but is not, and then pretend he wanted to see an ancient exam. list which is posted on the now superseded notice-board? It is a pathetic sight. But now, at last, the hour has come.

Our hero sets off down the corridor, at the end of which he reads the words "Physical Department". He peeps hesitatingly into the first door he comes to, penetrates further and finds a few dynamos and things, but no specimens of the *genus homo*, so he emerges and tries door No. 2. Here he finds a diminutive specimen of humanity, whose name, he subsequently discovers, belies his appearance and is remotely suggestive of Hercules. This youth, however, is apparently playing with shavings, and seems to resent the newcomer's entry as an intrusion, so the latter retreats, without apology, and finally gets into the long-desired precincts devoted to Natural Philosophy, and then—well, disappointment is too feeble a word for his emotions. He expected to see a large room, full of imposing-looking instruments, and busy students; instead of this he finds it, at first glance, unoccupied by any human beings; and the furniture consisting of about half-a-dozen plain (very) wooden tables, with an inkpot on each, but secured in a way that suggests a suspicion of pilfering habits. Instruments there are apparently none. He is just examining a large desk when he discovers, seated behind it, a mild-looking gentleman who is engrossed in study. He rightly concludes that this is the demonstrator, so he enquires "Can I start work to-day?" He is rather relieved to find that he can, inasmuch as he may then discover where the mysterious instruments are kept. But he is disappointed. He is presented with an ancient-looking document on the Vernier, with instructions to copy it out into a book which he is decoyed into buying; for apparatus he receives two Bredbingtonian models of verniers. He has come unprovided with a pen, of course, but gets on fairly well with a nib tied on a pencil. He copies out the manuscript in beautiful calligraphy—but how he will gaze in surprise in after days on comparing his first page with his fiftieth! Truly we live and learn. If there is one pernicious influence in the whole range of the noble science of Physics, it is the gradual insidious undermining of your handwriting, produced by the copying out of manuscripts.

Time was when we were justly famed (though we say it who shouldn't, but, like Jerome, don't know why we shouldn't) for our writing. At school it was held up as an example—envious critics say it was meant as a warning to others not to imitate, but that was mere jealousy.

But in an evil moment we began to study Physics and to copy out manuscripts, and behold the result—almost twenty per cent of our writing is now irretrievably, hopelessly legible. Let others take warning. The best way to avoid this evil is to write left handed; but alas! we began this too late, and the percentage of legibility is barely reduced to ten even yet; our reputation as authors of Scotch dialect stories is irretrievably gone—vanished along with our pristine success in examinations, since the flinty-hearted examiners will not take the correctness of our answers for granted, as of yore, when they can decipher one fifth—sufficient to betray our entire ignorance of the subject.

But we digress. In our own sorrows we have forgotten our new student, whose adventures we may possibly pursue in a subsequent paper.

Physicus.

### The Opening of Parliament.

FROM THE LADIES' GALLERY.

At last we have shaken the film from our eyes and the aroma from our persons obtained on the eventful night when Parliament opened. That being so, we feel that the events which characterised it can be regarded clearly, and various matters treated with more leniency than would have been possible while a shadowy perfume followed us constantly, and announced our coming to anxious friends.

Honourable members are to be congratulated on the very realistic manner in which their institution approached the actual one. Especially is this to be remarked in one particular, we mean the way in which they expressed approval, or otherwise, of the various points brought before the House. We hardly like to call it *swob*, but it was remarkably like it, and of an exceptionally healthy kind. However, we feel proud to think that the College holds noble and enthusiastic souls, already in their youth so nearly approaching Parliamentary perfection. Surely there need be no fear for the future of England.

Unfortunately, we are not all perfect, as hon. members testified. There is one small point we should like to mention, which seems to us incompatible with the dignity of so noble an

institution. Compared with the *elegance* which flowed from members' lips, it is perhaps foolish to mention anything else, and we do not wish to discourage rising talent, but may we ask—Is it permitted to hon. members, otherwise highly privileged, to pollute the Parliamentary atmosphere in the manner of the other night?

The speech of Her Most Gracious Majesty was hardly treated with the deference and respect due to its importance. Hon. members seemed unable to control their feelings, and gave the Speaker a hard task because of the heartiness of their manifestations.

The Debate promised great things, and there was a flutter of expectation from a certain quarter unnoticed on account of the manifestations mentioned before. It soon became evident that gentlemen on Government benches—and tables—had plenty of assurance, but no principles. Unfortunately, too, some members of the Government appeared ignorant on common points of Parliamentary knowledge. Our impression, when we entered the House, was that the Leader of the Opposition stood for W. Monmouthshire, but when we left we were not able to name his constituency, having received two names from members and left with a free choice. A certain gentleman seemed to be in the dark as to the title of the hon. member for West Leeds, but in spite of these details the Government should be encouraged to go on and prosper, and the results will be undoubtedly great.

All things considered, the Opposition was the weightier side, to say nothing of Independent members. The first gentleman who rose from the Opposition benches fully proved his position before proceeding to business, and if all were of the same mind the house would have a lively time. We are unable to say, however, what support was given their first speaker, for at the end of his very admirable criticism, somewhat interrupted by the exuberance of hon. members, the atmosphere proved unbearable, and the further brilliance of the sitting was sacrificed to fresh air.

### "The Lay of the Bell."

Tinkle, tinkle goes the bell,  
Off to Lectures rush pell-mell,  
Climbing ever higher and higher,  
Students' feet must never tire.

## The Gryphon.

Struggling, panting, up we climb,  
Thinking we'll be just in time  
If we hurry; three steps more—  
Shall we never reach that door?

A frantic rush, at last we're there;  
We're late again but we don't care.  
Professor smiles, a smile so grim,  
We realise we can't cheat him.

The Lecture then goes on apace,  
Each student quiet in his place;  
But after half an hour or so,  
We wish the time would quicker go.

Although our keenest interest's gone,  
With notes we wearily plod on;  
For surely soon the bell must strike,  
Though not as soon as we should like.

At last the welcome sound is heard,  
All hope *this* is the final word.  
But no,—“I'd like to finish this,”  
Professor says, and turns our bliss.

There we must sit some minutes more,  
With eyes turned often to the door,  
Until he's finished—off we go,  
To seek refreshments down below.

We've hardly reached the dining-room,  
When happiness is turned to gloom;  
For suddenly we hear a yell,  
“Come, hurry up; there goes that bell.”

## College News.

### The Organic Lab.

On the evening of Saturday, the 24th of February, the smoke room was converted into a dining room by the staff and students of the Organic Lab. and their friends. The professors' dining room became a smoke room, and a cosy little room it was, with the table removed and a piano and some plants introduced. Fairly we retired after dinner. Dr. Cohen was in the chair, and there we sat—lounges do not form part of the College furniture—and smoked and listened to the toasts and musical selections. The first toast was “The College,” proposed by Mr. Wilson, as a visitor. The chief point of his able and well-rendered speech was that the aim of all college education should be to produce cosmopolitanism of spirit, and many compliments were paid to the College in the course of it.

Professor Smithells replied to Mr. Wilson in a speech, which, though well favoured with his own humor, still preserved the rather serious tone adopted by Mr. Wilson. Thoroughly agreeing with the latter's views, he hoped that our College was progressing in the direction indicated, but was afraid that we had not yet reached the standard of excellence which Mr. Wilson attributed to us.

A change of tone was given by Mr. Forsyth in his toast, “The Organic Lab.” He gave us a humorous sketch of “organic life” as he had experienced it, the monotony of work being relieved by breakages, explosions, and such little incidents, and occasionally by a good yield. He concluded with an appeal on behalf of some of his own lads, who are now inundating us two or three times a week.

In replying, Dr. Cohen pointed out the many disadvantages under which we labour, with a humorous and pathetic description of the light received in the lower lab.; and in the same sad tone of voice he drew an analogy between a student and an organic preparation. It (the student), said Dr. Cohen, comes to us in a crude state. Very little can be extracted from it, and generally it is volatile. It is passed on to the classes to be treated with chemistry, physics, and mathematics, and between treatments it wanders up and down the corridors. Then at the end of three months it is set aside in the Examination Hall to crystallise on paper. Sometimes something is deposited; sometimes nothing; more often a scum rises to the surface.

Under the impression that brevity is the soul of wit, Mr. Barlow toasted the “Carbon Atom” by a short description of this little animal & its “Punch.”

Mr. Skinner ably impersonated the “Carbon Atom,” and plaintively aired a few of his grievances, especially the attempt made by some to deprive him of two of his four arms. Altogether, however, he seemed a very happy little Carbon Atom.

The toasts were sandwiched with solos by Moore, Casson, Forsyth, and Harrison, a violin solo by Dr. Cohen, and a short recitation by Mr. Wilson (“Oh! is that so?”)

The gathering became fairly lively with songs towards the end. We separated about 10.15, with “Auld Lang Syne,” after a very enjoyable evening.

### V. M. S. C. Notes.

ALDERSHOT was this year chosen by the Government for the V.M.S.C. camp. On Saturday evening, the 31st of July, all the companies of the corps, save two or three, had arrived in camp. The Leeds Company was without several distinguished members, including the only medical N.C.O. at that time. The first night under canvas was a revelation to some of the recruits, and we fear that one member of the corps, at least, will not soon forget a certain loaf of bread, or the state of his face at church parades, which took place at half-past ten on Sunday. After church parade, and an excellent sermon remarkable for its brevity, the men were allowed to do what they liked for the remainder of the day. On Monday morning the Leeds Company was told off to make camp kitchens,—very interesting work, and very instructive, viewed from a military and also from a social point of view; as we can imagine, in this latter respect, no more useful member at a picnic than a man who can build up a decent fire for cooking. On Tuesday and Thursday,

the company did ambulance work in camp. On Wednesday, it was instructed in the work of loading railway waggons with sick and wounded. On Thursday evening, battalion orders were issued with regard to fighting operations on Friday, and we went to sleep feeling that we were on the eve of a great battle. On Friday, the company, as bearer company to the 1st Battalion Manchester Regiment and Staffordshire Brigade, started at 6 o'clock, in an easterly direction, across the Long Valley, which runs north and south, and after a long but interesting march reached its position in ample time for the commencement of operations, military and surgical.

Your correspondent was fortunate enough to be sent right up to the front fighting line, and, as that line extended for some miles, it will be as well to describe his personal experiences. The particular brigade to which he belonged was posted in the hollow of a horseshoe-shaped hill, having a road bounding the hollow on the south. On the extreme south of the hill was posted a squadron of the 2nd Dragoons, or Royals, and then a company of the Manchester Regiment, then a battery of Horse Artillery, and on the extreme right a squadron of Horse Artillery acting as Cavalry. When the signal for operations to begin was given, up the hill in front of us dashed the Horse Artillery, who unfurled and set their guns in position. Firing now became general along the whole line, and the men began to drop in great numbers. For one moment was our gaze turned to the rear, but in that brief moment we saw a most beautiful sight. With their barbed helmets glittering in the sun, we saw the 2nd Dragoons dash over the hill behind us, followed by Artillery, and down the road to our left came the 3rd Hussars. We heard the colonel give the command, "Form Troops!" and then, "Into Line!" The Royals and the Hussars charged together over the hill in front. Fired with enthusiasm, we thought the day was ours; but the enemy were much superior numerically, and the Dragoons were hurled back over the hill, and our retreat was ordered. But, unfortunately, patients had to be attended to, and the last thing your correspondent saw of the battle was the Carabineers charging by squadrons on a devoted band of redcoats. As the company brought in the wounded to the hospital, the enemy had crowned the heights to the south, and were pouring volley after volley into our brave but beaten forces. "God," said Napoleon, quoting a French proverb, "was always on the side of the strong battalions." Thus ended the battle of Long Valley, as the *Daily Telegraph* called the operations on Friday, 6th August.

On Saturday, after a review of the whole corps, the Leeds Company entrained, and reached home safely in the evening, after a week of very hard work, but none the less enjoyable for all that.

### Flounders Notes.

On August 28th, 1898 will be completed the 50th year since the foundation of the Institute by Benjamin Flounders, by deed of trust. In all, some 280

students have passed through the Institute, of whom 118 are engaged in teaching at the present time, 69 have graduated in Science or Arts, 17 have taken M.A., and 7 a Doctorate in Science, Literature or Medicine.

The "Flounders" first became connected with Yeolshire College in 1894, when it removed from Ackworth. The old building still remains empty. Those of us only who were students at the old place really know the advantages which we have gained and lost; perhaps memory too fondly paints the bygone days, but we confess at times, on foggy days, a lingering "yearning after the flesh-pots of Egypt," but hurriedly put such feelings aside, as being disrespectful to our new Alma Mater.

Some of us lately paid a brief visit to our former abode, which looked very dejected with its empty class rooms; the pleasant country situation, fine old garden and general surroundings, brought back longings scarcely to be satisfied by the idyllic picturesqueness of Leeds.

There are 9 students in residence here this session, 7 of whom turn out regularly in one or other of the Association teams.

## College Societies.

### The Athletic Union.

#### General Meeting of Students.

For some years past a proposal to make the Union Subscription compulsory has been periodically mooted. On February 4th, a general meeting of all the students of the Yorkshire College was held to consider a resolution brought forward by a member of the Union Committee in connection with this proposal. There was a large number of students present, including the women students who turned up *en masse*. Professor Smithells was in the chair. Considerable amusement was afforded by the explosion of Nitrogen iodide, which seemed to be scattered round the Chairman's seat. Mr. Whitaker moved "That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable that the Union Subscription should be reduced to 5s. per annum, and made compulsory for all registered students." He pointed out that the Union was not merely an athletic club, but was meant to be an aid to the general social life of the College. He advised the remodelling of the Union Committee. Mr. Mosley seconded the resolution. Mr. Jocelyn moved that the resolution be amended, and that the words "remain 7s. 6d." be substituted for "reduced to 5s." Mr. Bagge seconded. The amendment was lost. Mr. Conant, answering Mr. Mandy, informed the meeting that the estimated income under

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the terms of the resolution would be about £775 per annum, excluding "houseary members' contributions. Miss Robinson wished to know what return women students would get for their subscription. Mr. Cooper complained about the lack of accommodation in the Union Rooms; he shuddered to think of the overcrowding that would occur under the new régime. Mr. Pilgrim then rose to speak, but his remarks were unfortunately inaudible, the noise being a reproduction of Disraeli's first speech in the House of Commons; the only word which penetrated the din of voices was "agriculture"; one can only dimly guess at his hidden meaning. Mr. Dveryhouse then moved a resolution submitting that a compulsory membership without a thorough revision of the rules of the Union and of the method of the election of the committee would be manifestly unfair to a large number of students. Mr. Moss seconded the resolution. After a short discussion it was agreed to include Mr. Dveryhouse's motion in the original resolution. Mr. Suggden moved as an amendment that all students playing games should pay 2s. 6d. extra per annum. The many difficulties that would arise from this proposal were pointed out by Messrs. Whitaker, Collinson, and Moss. The amendment was lost. Mr. Pilgrim, amidst much noise and many interruptions, spoke on behalf of the women students, and suggested that they should have a separate meeting of their own to decide this question. Miss Procter thought the lady students could decide for themselves at the meeting then in progress. Mr. Whitaker's resolution, as amended by Mr. Dveryhouse, was then put and carried unanimously.

### The Scientific Society.

The eighth ordinary meeting of this Society was held on Thursday, January 20th, when Messrs. Wood and Crawley brought forward scientific communications on mal-kenned oranges, and a chemical laboratory experiment respectively. The paper of the evening was read by Mr. Skirrow, the subject being "Faraday."

Faraday was born of humble parents, and in his youth he was first errand-boy to a bookseller, and afterwards apprenticed to a bookbinder. In both these capacities he found leisure to examine the interior as well as exterior of the books which passed through his hands, and thus he became much fascinated with science, resulting in his appointment as laboratory assistant at the Royal Institution, where he later on became professor.

One of the most important of his many chemical discoveries was benzene, and his work on the liquefaction of gases demonstrated the fact that the latter are merely vapours of liquids with low boiling-points. As time advanced, the character of his work assumed more and more a physical aspect, and he was destined to be a pioneer of physics. Experiments on electrical induction in wires and discs led him to the conception of lines of force, whilst other electrical researches resulted in the coining of such common words as electrolysis, electrolyte, ion, etc. In some of his open-

ideas are expressed which indicate that the emanations of Mayer and Joule had almost been grasped by him. In 1845 he announced the discovery of the "Magnetisation of Light," which is now known as "The Rotation of the Plane of Polarisation by a Magnetic Field." In the words of Dr. Tyndall, "Taking him for all in all, I think it will be conceded that Michael Faraday was the greatest experimental philosopher the world has ever seen, and I will add the opinion that the progress of future research will tend not to dim or diminish, but to enhance and glorify the labours of this mighty investigator."

The discussion which followed was maintained by Dr. Patterson, Messrs. Smith, Gouldsmith, and Cooper.

At the meeting held on Thursday, February 3rd, Mr. Pilgrim read a paper on "Colour Science in Dyeing." After an apology for the necessarily strongly physical tone which his paper would assume, Mr. Pilgrim remarked that an unmusical man may play a piano simply by an application of mathematical rules, but a most perfect mathematical or physical knowledge of colour is inadequate for the dyer. He must also possess practical experience and good taste and judgment; for we have not yet achieved the possibility of dyeing by means of higher mathematics. After referring to the production of colour by the decomposition of white light, as exhibited in a spectrum, Mr. Pilgrim drew attention to the three-colour theory of vision worked out by Young and Helmholtz. Experiments in support of this theory, and also to show the different and unreliable behaviour of pigments, were ably performed. The great differences in luminosity of the various parts of the spectrum was the cause of complementary colours producing greys and not whites, and this fact was experimentally demonstrated. After touching on opalescence, Mr. Pilgrim proceeded to discuss the influence of absorption on colour; black being produced by the absorption of all light, being in fact the absence of white. The subject of "matching off" received considerable attention from the lecturer, who illustrated his remarks by experiments and exhibitions of apparatus. The application of the previous facts to dyeing and printing was next pointed out, the laws of contrast, effect of gas and other lights, luminosity of adjacent surfaces, all being considered and exhibited by means of diagrams and a copious use of Maxwell's discs. After dealing with fluorescence and colour-blindness, Mr. Pilgrim concluded by thanking the various gentlemen to whom he was indebted for apparatus and diagrams. In the discussion which followed Messrs. Barlow, Finn, Wood, Varley, and Colvert took part, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Pilgrim, and to Mr. Wood for assistance in the experiments, concluded the proceedings of the evening.

The tenth ordinary meeting was held on Thursday, February 10th. A contribution was furnished by Mr. Dveryhouse, who described a quick method of preparing lantern slides. A diagram is made upon ground glass, which is then rendered transparent by pouring over it a chloroform solution of Canada balsam, the



evaporation of the chloroform rendering the slides quickly ready for use; in fact, the chairman prepared a slide, much to the amusement of the audience, whilst Mr. Dwyerhouse exhibited some of his own preparation. The method was discussed by Messrs. Wood, Moss, and Pilgrim.

Miss Emmerson then read her paper on "The Abodes of Primitive Man," of which the following is an abstract:—In the pages of history man appears in a high state of civilisation, but the steps by which that civilisation was attained are pointed out by prehistoric archaeology. When the first remains of primitive man were discovered, they were not understood, but of late a scientific study of these relics has proved the existence of man in very early times. From the implements left in the gravels of the river-drift we learn that the man of that time was a hunter, poorly equipped for the struggle for existence against such animals as the mammoth and the lion. He built himself no permanent habitation, but lived like an animal, in the open air or in holes in the earth. His successor, the cave man, lived for at least a part of the year in caves, and he stands out clearly in the wonderful power which he possessed of drawing the animals he saw around him. The rude remains of the earliest men are found underground, but implements of greater variety and finish are found nearer the surface, and these belonged to another race of people, who introduced into Britain agriculture and domestic animals, and who built for themselves either huts of logs or of wattle-work, or lived in pit dwellings. In certain parts of Switzerland and Italy, and even in Britain, curious dwelling-places were made by these primitive people in the midst of lakes, but as times became more peaceable these fell into disuse, and eventually were only used as camps of refuge in times of war.

The following took part in the discussion, viz., Messrs. Skirrow, Pilgrim, Olcese, Smith, Moss, Lemble, Barlow, and Dwyerhouse.

The eleventh ordinary meeting was held on Thursday, February 17th. Mr. Moss gave a description of the coccus leaf, ascribing the white streaks to the tubular form of the leaf; in support of this theory, he stated that when the white streak was absent, the tubular form of the leaf was also absent. The tubular form of the leaf strengthens it, and thus enables it to be the hardy plant which the coccus is known to be.

Mr. Gaudinich brought before the Society the recipes used in the preparation of the coloured solutions employed in a recent process of colour photography.

Mr. A. R. Dwyerhouse, F.G.S., then read a paper, entitled "Modern Glaciers, and their bearing on British Glacial Geology." After treating briefly of the history of glacial geology, and alluding to the work of Agassiz and his contemporaries, Mr. Dwyerhouse spoke of the great stimulus which had been given to the study of glacial deposits in Britain by the late Prof. H. Cecil Lewis, and of the admirable work done by Mr. Percy F. Kendall, of the Yorkshire College. The general character and distribution of

the glacial deposits of Great Britain were then discussed, it being pointed out that these were not strewn at random over the country, but that there were certain well-defined areas of dispersion, each characterised by the occurrence of a particular assemblage of erratic blocks, viz.:

- (a) The deposits formed by the Great Irish Sea Glacier, characterised by the abundance of Granites from Edendale (Cumberland), Dalbeattie and Criffel in the South-west of Scotland, Volcanic Rocks from the Lake District, and the Eairie of Ailsa Craig.
- (b) A dispersal of Welsh rocks outwards from Arenig Mawr, extending for short distances from the Mountain Mass of Wales, and insculcating with the Irish Sea Drift.
- (c) A series of deposits extending from the Vale of Eden, over Stainmoor Pass, down the central valley of Yorkshire to the City of York, characterised by rocks from the Vale of Eden and the hills to the west, but especially marked by the large number of boulders of Ship Granite, and the occurrence of the Permian Conglomerate (Brockram) of the Vale of Eden.
- (d) The drift of the Yorkshire coast, capping the cliffs, and extending for short distances inland, remarkable for the fact that it contains, in addition to the rocks characteristic of the drift of the Vale of York, boulders of undoubted Scandinavian origin.
- (e) The Great Chalky Boulder Clay of the Eastern and East Midland Counties.

The "Land-ice" and "Submergence" theories were then briefly discussed, it being pointed out that the distribution of the drift deposits, while easily explicable on the former hypothesis, could certainly not be consistently explained by the latter.

A large number of slides were then shown, illustrating existing glaciers in Switzerland and other parts of the world, many of them from the author's own negatives. Particular stress was laid upon the power which glaciers possess of lifting materials from lower to higher levels, and of transporting fragile shells without injury. In this connection, the recent observations of Dr. Gregory on the Ivory Gate Glacier, in Spitzbergen, were briefly mentioned, as were also the experiments performed by Prof. Soller with artificial glaciers made of pitch. The lecturer, in conclusion, thanked Mr. Moss for his kindness in working the lantern.

In the discussion the following took part, viz.:—Dr. Patterson, Messrs. Kendall, F.G.S., Whittaker, Pilgrim, and Skirrow.

## The Debating Society. Parliamentary Night.

January 31st was Parliamentary Night. There was never a milder or more crowded audience anywhere. For the majority of the members the essence of political duty seemed to lie in cheering their particular party; so

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they cheered loud and long, and many fine speeches were in consequence heard to little advantage. From their gallery the ladies looked on with plying eye, and tried bravely not to cough or sneeze; for, indifferent to good Parliamentary manners, members were actually smoking within the House, and the Speaker said never a word of protest. So that flourishes and fills retained the matchless odour for many days, until, like the scent of valenines, it gradually died away.

Mr. Cooper made an excellent Premier. In their carousing preparations he and his satellites had invaded every laboratory, even the dyehouse; while Mr. Ridge and Mr. Scholes had been no less energetic in organising the Liberal party. The first business was the introduction of the new members for Yock and Plymouth, and Black Rod (Mr. Olaszewski) here played his part with peculiar dignity.

Questions were then asked of the Government (we give now the report of our special correspondent), and some good hits were made in reply. The Speaker (Prof. Grant) read the Queen's Speech, and Mr. Cooper moved the following reply: "That this House cordially thanks Her Majesty for her Address, and fully endorse the statements and policy contained therein." The Premier drew attention to the chief points of the Address, defending the Government's action in India and Egypt, explaining our policy in China, and also claiming credit for the President of the Board of Trade for the settlement of the late strike. Mr. Corrie seconded the reply in a neat speech.

Mr. Ridge, Leader of the Opposition, moved an amendment regretting the absence of a definite statement of future legislation. He then "went for" the Government in true Harcourtian style on every point. His reference to the new Postal Rates as a piece of class legislation was vigorously contested by Mr. Shackenoria. Mr. Scholes, the Liberal Whip, followed in a similar strain. Then Mr. Whitlow arose, with visage stern, and in sarcastic, cutting terms denounced the Indian policy. This was, in many respects, the best speech of the evening. Mr. Moss professed to lead an Independent Party, but he finally threw the weight of his powerful influence into the balance in favour of the Opposition. At this point Mr. H. L. Smith, of angling and fish-tale renown, who had previously asked a question with regard to the protection of coarse fish during the breeding season, began to denounce the Egyptian campaign in a speech composed entirely of rhetorical questions. "Why should we send our troops up the Nile?" demanded Mr. Smith, and the answer came in unison from both sides of the House: "To fish." "What could they do there?" (Cries of "Fish.") "What should our soldiers be doing instead of fighting poor devils?" ("Fishing.") In fact, every question seemed made for a fish-answer; and it came like a chorus. This was the only occasion on which all parties were agreed. Mr. Hunt then vigorously defended the Indian campaign, and Mr. Flitton touched off on the importance of the Navy, a subject in which he seemed quite at home, as, indeed, he is in any subject whatsoever. After the

Premier's reply came the division on the amendment, with this result: for the amendment, 41; against, 44. Whereupon, continues our correspondent, the Government went mad with joy. Never before had the Tories won a division on Parliamentary Night. They stood on tables and waved chairs, and shouted wildly, until the Porter entered the House to protest on behalf of the evening classes. Black Rod squared up pugilistically, but the majesty of the Speaker overcame the intruder, and he retreated, amid derisive shouts. A strange thing then occurred. A division was taken on the original motion of Mr. Cooper's, and it was lost by 42 to 41. On the whole, however, the Tories won the day. In fact, it is stated that the Premier refuses to resign.

### Comic Literature:

This debate was both interesting and peculiar. The audience was select, if small; and no one seemed to know quite what was the exact point of discussion. Mr. Cooper's speech, in which he attempted to show that modern comic and periodical literature is not detrimental to intellectual development, sounded just a wee bit like a publisher's catalogue. Of course, all lovers of books know what entertaining reading a good catalogue can make, especially if the books happen to be second-hand; and Mr. Cooper's remarks were none the less interesting for being somewhat catalogical. It must be quite an obscure periodical which he did not refer to in some shape or other, and all with the object of showing that what is written in good style cannot tend to intellectual degeneration. We do not remember that Mr. Cooper said much about the *author* of these publications; we do remember, however, that when he referred to the author of *Three Men in a Boat* as "infinitely amusing," the remark met with the sympathy and cheers of the House. This author, we learn, is not only infinitely humorous, but he manages to convey much sound instruction with his humour; so that it behaves those who love knowledge to make his acquaintance.

Mr. Cooper concluded his able speech by a very apposite quotation, which he pretended was Shakespearian; but we have not been able to verify it, having, indeed, our suspicions that it was spurious, like the "Lemonade Weekly" that he described so familiarly.

Mr. Chapman's remarks were nothing if not weighty. The degeneracy of those latter days, when men prefer *Marie Correll* to Jane Austen, and *Comic Cats* to the *Ode on a Grecian Urn*, seemed to sit heavy on his broad shoulders, and tinge his voice with sorrow. Our modern periodical and comic "literature" was detrimental, he said, not only intellectually, but morally. Very few leading articles in the newspapers would bear close scrutiny as to their truth, for they were full of fallacies and the bias of partisanship. The police news, the football news, and the trashy fiction—where was the good of it all! Such papers as *Answer* seemed to him, whenever they rose out of their shallow jokes, to inspire after anomalies and

peculiarities and curiosities—what agencies here for mental malformation! These papers so blunted a man's finer sensibilities, that he at length became unable to distinguish between delicate shades of meaning, or to appreciate the sictions of humour—humour, said Mr. Chapman, which came in the end to mean a pun!

Mr. Pigriest opened the discussion. To his eternal honour be it said, he spoke on the side of the angels. Mr. Spilkins spoke like an editor on behalf of newspaper leaders, while Mr. Priestley took up Chapman's strain. Speaking of humour, he said that *Three Men in a Boat* showed a very low order of it. Papers like *Answers*, besides promoting desultoriness, were really having the unfortunate effects which Mr. Chapman had indicated. The readers of these papers were, as a rule, unable to appreciate a humourist like Lamb. He had seen a company of such people quite blind to anything funny in Lamb's remarks, when he said he had once known a young man who wanted to be a sailor, but he hadn't the spirit.

Professor Grist, the President, said that in travelling on the underground railway in London he had often shared the carriage with City clerks and others, all reading *Swack*, *Cuffs*, and other eminent comics; but he had always been struck by the fact that none of these people ever laughed, or even smiled. From their faces, they might all have been reading of the Day of Judgment. It was the introduction of cheap papers that had largely helped to destroy that dignity of character among our peasantry which could now be seen only in very remote parts. Newspapers were more business speculations; the mass of journalists were neither qualified by knowledge nor by experience to judge of the great questions of the day. He felt it was so often not a question of truth and conscience, but of business; whereas the high function of giving advice to the public should belong to men of character, who could be their own men, quite open and independent. It was said that the Press was losing its power; and he heard the news with no grief. For in proportion as every great thinker advances on the intellectual road, he must withdraw, like Spencer and Comte, more and more from the periodical literature of his day.

Then came Hunt, Schokes, Wood, Potter, Middlemiss, and Tiffany, and the President was just about to call on Mr. Cooper for his reply, when "Mr. Chairman" was distinctly heard from the corner on the right. It was none other than Mr. Suggden. God speed thee, Suggden! What hast thou to say? "Mr. Chairman," he repeated, slowly, "I rise to advocate the claims of Blood-reading. It gives me pain to think that several members of this House have spoken with disrespect of Deadwood Dick, the friend and companion of my youth! Honour to his memory! (Loud cheers.) I have read, Mr. Chairman, thousands of bloods in my time—read them with a pleasure which only bloods can give. In face of the slanderous remarks made this night, look, I implore you, at me, and say, am I the worse for bloods?" (Loud cries of "No," "Not a bit of it," "Bravo, Suggden!") This was the grand climax of the debate, and Mr. Cooper's motion was carried by a tremendous majority.

A.W.P.

## Women's Literary and Debating Society.

We are glad to report an improvement in the meetings of this Society, both in numbers and in the vigour of the debate.

One of our pleasantest and most profitable hours was spent with Tecumseh. The President opened by reading from "Knock Aides" the description of "The Wanderer's Return." Several others followed with good selections, among which were "Dora," "The Death of the Old Year," and short passages from "The Passing of Arthur," "Maud," and "The Princess."

On January 18th the subject for debate was "That Capital Punishment should be Abolished."—Miss Parkin speaking in the affirmative, declared the practice, firstly, to be barbarous, and so deterrent to crime; secondly, to be contrary to the ethical and most rational thought of the present day; thirdly, to be the punishment of a crime, the cause of which was often ignorance; and further, that it frustrated the results which should be the outcome of all punishment, viz., the reformation of character. She also pointed out that there was always the possibility of the wrong person suffering, and an inevitable mistake being made. The motion was negatived by Miss Bompas, who said that the chief, though not the only crime punishable in this way was murder. She then proceeded to investigate the various motives that prompted such actions, and drawing realistic pictures of desperate burglars to add force to her arguments, she declared finally, that for the man who committed such a crime as premeditated murder, hanging was too good a punishment. Following this, Misses Emerson, Porritt, Lister, Marshall, Denison, and others briefly expressed an opinion on either side. On the motion being put, 9 voted for, and 22 against.

The debate upon "The Relative Happiness of the Wise Man and the Fool" proved to be of great interest. Miss Lister, in rising to propose the motion "That the Wise Man is the Happier," pointed out that man is essentially a *biological* body, and as such cannot remain passive, but must ever be striving after something. Happiness, which is more lasting than pleasure, and which rises above mere contentment, requires that this unquenchable longing after activity should be satisfied. Thus, happiness was not to be attained by merely existing, but by leading a useful life, and this is what the truly wise man seeks to do. With equal earnestness Miss Denison maintained that the fool is happier than the wise man, chiefly because of his perfect satisfaction, both with himself and all around him, and because of his freedom from realising his responsibility in the world. Miss Oliver and Miss Porritt spoke for the motion, and Misses Denison, Horsfield, and Marshall against. On the vote being taken, the feeling of the meeting was shown to be about equally divided, the motion being lost by a majority of one.

J.H.P.

## Literary and Historical Society.

The first meeting of this newly-formed Society was held on Monday, February 28th. Miss Emmerson took the chair, and the President, Prof. Grant, gave the inaugural address, on "History." At the outset, the speaker said he had chosen this subject not because he was Professor of History, but because it was his hobby, and the one thing above all others in which he was interested. History should be regarded as an explanation of the path trodden by man from pre-historic times to the present day. The student must have two conceptions of history—the universal and the local. Speaking of European history, he deprecated the under-rating of the importance of the Middle Ages, which was so common throughout the 17th and 18th centuries. The mistake was too often made that humanity in the 4th century had crawled away into darkness for about 1,000 years, and had dwelt in dens and caves beneath the earth until the dawning of the Renaissance period in the 14th century. The darkness of these ages was due rather to our ignorance than to theirs. During the present century much had been done, partly by artists and novelists, to bring about a better appreciation of that period, but much yet remained to be done.

In the study of universal history we must not lose sight of what was called its continuity and solidarity. It is a law that each generation depends upon previous generations; we are what we are from generations of the past. Each nation, too, gains in the intercourse with other nations, both in peace and in war. While keeping, however, to the universal conceptions, we ought also to study the history of our country, and more especially of our county. No county was so full of historical interest as the county of Yorkshire. Every phase of English history could be represented from the facts of its history. Many traces of the Roman occupation were to be found in various parts of the county. The Abbey of Whithby spoke of the earliest endeavours to Christianise the country, and of the great Synod of 664 A.D. Stamford Bridge, Northallerton, Tostan, and Marston Moor all represented crises in the nation's history, and Prof. Grant observed that the erection of memorials to mark the sites of these battles would be a useful outlet for the Society's energies. In the names of Kilsnoth, Fountains, and other abbeys we were reminded of the great Reformation period and the dissolution of the monasteries. He hoped that during the present session more light would be thrown upon these subjects by the researches and subsequent papers of the members of the Society.

Dr. Moorman then pointed out that the literary importance of Yorkshire was quite as great as the historical, giving as instances Wycliffe and Charlotte Brontë, representatives of widely-separated ages. He suggested as a subject for a paper, "The Relations of Literature to History," in order that we might know how far the literature was a reflexion of the historical life of the period.

Mr. Scholes, in a racy speech, gave several interesting facts in the history of Leeds, and remarked that

in Cookson and Alfred Austin Yorkshire possessed the Alpha and Omega of English poets.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 2nd, when Miss Procter will read a paper on "Robert Louis Stevenson."

Historica.

## The Textile Society.

Two ordinary meetings of the Society have been held since the issue of the first number of this magazine, namely, the lecture on the "Carding Machine and the Art of Carding," by Mr. D. D. Marshall, presided over by Professor Benham, at which a very large number of those interested in the subject attended; and a lecture on "Conditioning Houses: Home and Continental," by Mr. W. Townsend, Director of the Bradford Conditioning House, at which Mr. Thos. Henry Nussey presided. Reports of these two lectures are given in the magazine of the Textile Department.

One of the successful branches of the Society is that known as the "Dry Students' Meetings." During the present session, there has been an average attendance of over 40 at these meetings, when the following papers have been read:—"Silk and Silk Culture," by W. T. Hall; "Wool Scouring," by J. Wilson; "London Wool Sales," by C. Hainworth; "Union Fabrics," by Z. G. Yerdall. The meetings are useful in affording the students an opportunity of discussing subjects connected with textile work, and also have an important social interest.

The Annual Conversations of the Society was held on Saturday, February 5th, in the College Hall and Clothworkers' Buildings. The President (Sir John Barran, Bart.) and Lady Barran received the guests. The services of Mr. George Grossmith were engaged for the occasion.

[We regret that this notice was accidentally omitted from our last issue.—Ed.]

## The Education Society.

On Monday, January 24th, the fourth meeting of the present session was held, when Mr. C. E. Moss gave an address on "Natural History in Schools." Mr. J. Welton, M.A., presided.

The term "Natural History" was used in several senses; but Mr. Moss, chiefly for convenience, used the term as signifying the history,—i.e., the story—of living things: their forms, colours, habits, surroundings, and the effect of their surroundings on living things. Beauty should be studied, and its causes enquired into. Animals should not be studied in stuffed skins, nor plants as dried specimens in herbaria; the organisms must be studied as living things.

Mr. Moss thought that natural history was a subject highly suitable for schools—for practically all schools. Living plants and animals were within easy reach, and in the case of sham schools, there was an additional incentive to the study on account of the country rambles

which the subject necessarily entailed. The apparatus was inexpensive. The powers of observation and reasoning were exercised, though the latter required to be used with care and caution. The subject, properly taught, would develop a deeper love of nature and a truer sense of beauty. Incidentally it would lead to a higher appreciation of some of our great writers, notably Wordsworth and Richard Jefferies.

Regarding the subject from a purely pedagogic standpoint, Mr. Moss divided his remarks under three heads: (1) *Children between 6 and 10 years of age.* These should be walks into the country, and visits to parks and gardens. These should be under the guidance of one who combined the qualities of a skilled teacher and a true naturalist. Mr. Moss did not regard museums as suitable at this age. Then there should be simple object lessons in school on the things observed during the rambles; e.g., buttercups, bluebells, birds, rabbits. The children should be encouraged to keep pets, and to grow plants—not to buy plants in pots, but to gather seeds, sow them, and watch them as they grew up into adults.

(2) *Children between 10 and 14 years of age.* The country rambles, &c. should be continued. Museums, menageries and conservatories might be visited occasionally. Object lessons, as before, should be given in school. These should advance in difficulty as time went on. Panicles, trees, frogs and bees were excellent topics. "Object" (sic) lessons on animals and plants which the children had never seen, such as the giraffe and the sage palm, were absurd. The life-histories of some animals and plants could, at this stage, be studied with great profit. Frogs, butterflies and ferns, furnished excellent material for such a study. As a rule, collections were to be tabooed; and this applied also to text-books. The children, however, should have note-books of their own; and any models, which were found desirable, should be made by the children themselves. They should sketch a great deal. This exercise might, with great profit, be substituted for the often worthless exercise known as "freehand" drawing. Some of the commoner plants, e.g., many grasses, furnished excellent material for adorning the window sills of the school. Their natural colours harmonised with their graceful forms better than did any aniline dyes.

(3) *Children over 14 years of age.* The following only applied to higher elementary and to secondary schools. The subject should be studied on the same general lines as before, with more attention to certain details. Some of the children would by this time show a decided taste in some particular branch, perhaps in birds, or flowers, or butterflies and moths. These children might, with advantage, form a school naturalists' club. Elementary botany should be taken in a definitely scientific way. Mr. Moss deprecated the dissection of animals in school.

A short discussion followed opened by Mr. W. M. Hyde.

T. W. C. Hen. Sec.

### Christian Union.

The College and Medical School Branches of the British College Christian Union have recently had a visit from Mr. T. Tatlow, of Trinity College, Dublin, Traveling Secretary of the Student Volunteer Missionary Union. On Friday, February 24th, Mr. Tatlow addressed a united meeting of the two unions in the Board Room of the Infirmary, Mr. W. J. W. Anderson presiding. Mr. Tatlow's address was very impressive, dealing with the necessity for a deeper knowledge of God, and for a feeling of more personal responsibility for the evangelisation of the world. Those of our students who had the opportunity of intercourse with Mr. Tatlow will long remember the occasion as one of great blessing.

It is gratifying to know that the Union is showing signs of renewed activity. A Bible Circle, for the more systematic study of the Scriptures, has been started at the College, the subject of study for the present to be "Prayer"; while there are two such circles at the Medical School, which have been in progress for some time. The attendance at the ordinary meetings is now larger than last session, and shows distinct signs of increasing.

T. W. SCHOLLES, Sec., College Christian Union.  
P. A. H. RANCLIFFE, Sec., Medical School Branch.

### The Engineering Society.

On Monday, February 14th, Mr. John Balfie read a most interesting paper on "The Parsons Steam Turbine," one of the latest triumphs of British engineering, before a large assembly of members. The lecturer first dwelt on the history of the engine, and then, with the help of a model and excellent diagrams, proceeded to explain the working of the present pattern adopted, not forgetting to expound the advantages of the high-speed rotary motor over the reciprocal engine. Some data on that wonderful craft, the "Turbinia," built by Parsons & Co., of Newcastle, were faithfully given. A lively discussion followed, most gentlemen taking the part of the reciprocal engine against its new rival, and pointing out disadvantages of the steam turbine. Particularly Mr. Towler was conspicuous by his brilliant eloquence. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Balfie terminated the proceedings.

### Chess Club.

The Chess Club is growing, both in numbers and popularity. The reports of its doughty deeds have aroused a large amount of hitherto dormant interest in its doings. The club has won every match it has played since October, and is now about to play the final tie for the Leeds Junior Championship. This result has been brought about by the support and interest of every member of the club, nearly every man striving to obtain a place in the all-conquering

team, and once having obtained this coveted honour, being unwilling to let it slip from him.

The Engineering Department has just issued a challenge to the Physicists to engage in "mental, if not mortal, combat" over the chess board. The challenge has been accepted.

The Tournament was won by Mr. F. J. Broadbent.

#### RESULTS SINCE LAST ISSUE.

Opp.	Team.	Col.	Opponent.
Feb. 5th.—O.	Christ Church	— 4	— 3
Feb. 19th.—O.	Deaf and Dumb	8	— 0
Feb. 26th.—O.	South Parade	— 4	— 3
Mar. 8th.—O.	" "	— 4	— 4

This last was the final match in the Leeds Junior League, and, as will be seen from the above, it ended in a tie.

[We congratulate the Chess Club on the honourable position it has gained.—Ed.]

## Athletics.

### Association Football.

WON 7 and lost 7 is the record of the First Eleven for this season up to February 26th; last year at this point we had won the same number but lost 10, so that the figures this year are slightly better. We have been rather unfortunate in our fixtures, matches which were arranged with Oset, Otley and Featherstone having been scratched owing to the fact that we were not affiliated to the West Yorkshire Association. One of the rules of the Association is that affiliated clubs must not play non-affiliated clubs, so that if the College joined they would not be able to play such teams as Hotham, which is now a recognized annual fixture. Again, two of the University matches this term were cancelled, which was very unpleasant for the part of Owens and Liverpool, seeing that half-holidays had been arranged for these dates, and all arrangements had been made before we received information that the matches were cancelled. In the case of the Owens match, our men were all on the field, changed. The alleged reason of Owens was that they had a cup-tie the following Saturday. Surely one would have thought that a university match came before a cup-tie. The following have played for the first time more or less regularly this season:—Moseley (captain), Johnson, Whitaker, Priestman, Ranshaw, Kaye, Whitlow, Dunk, Genter, Allison, Webster, Butlerworth, Bealbone, Yarborough, Frankland and Denison, so that it will be seen that we have had, by no means, the same team each Saturday. Matches with University College, Sheffield, have been arranged for the first time this year, and it is satisfactory to state that we won the first of a series which we earnestly hope will be a continuous one. The weak point in the team has been the lack of scoring power among the forwards, and what the team most needs is a good centre-forward, and we feel confident in stating that if one could be found we

should be more often on the winning side. In goal we have had a safe custodian in the person of Dunk, who has played some brilliant games, notably against St. John's College, York. At full-back we have always had the services of Priestman and Ranshaw, who have generally proved reliable. At half-back, we have rarely had the same trio two matches running. In the front rank, combination has not been very prominent, but this is not to be wondered at, seeing that the quintette is never the same two matches running. Four more matches will bring this football season to a close, a season which started with bright prospects but which has been full of disappointment; first a prominent player crossing off, then another getting damaged for the rest of the season, and two of the University matches cancelled.

F. W. JOHNSON, } Hon. Sec.  
C. M. WHITEAKER, }

### Second Eleven Matches.

JANUARY 26th.—O. HUDSDONFIELD WEDNESDAY.

Lost, 8 goals to 3. The College team showed no looseness in the first half of the game, but improved after the interval until they were badly let down by the goal-keeper.

FEBRUARY 5th.—O. BRADFORD A.

Went, 2 goals to 1, on the College ground. A liberal sprinkling of first eleven talent enabled the College to just pull off the match.

FEBRUARY 12th.—O. HARRINGTON ALBION.

At home, lost, 3 goals to nil. Only three of the regular second eleven were playing, therefore the College could not be expected to win, though Brown, in goal, played very well, as did E. Wilson and Turnbull at half.

FEBRUARY 19th.—O. HUDSDONFIELD TECHNICAL COLLEGE.

Away; won by 3 goals to 1. An opponent scored our first goal, Whitlow and Turnbull following with one each. The game was a very poor one, though Frankland, Bealbone and Allison played well, but G. H. Wilson at full-back was far too selfish, though his kicking was very good; but he should keep more to his own place.

Team: Goal, Brown; backs, G. H. Wilson, G. H. Wilson; half backs, Frankland, W. E. Corrie (captain), Bealbone; forwards, Allison, Whitlow, Graveler, Turnbull, Svenson.

### Rugby Football.

As space, we understand, is valuable in the present number of *The Gryphon*, we shall only review the season as a whole. The First Fifteen began very well by winning their first three matches in succession, viz., those against Hallow, Orleans, and the Clergy School. Against Headingley we had hard lines in not winning, as the try they scored was certainly not a fair one. We were beaten by Kirtstall St. Stephen, and by Owens. In both matches the College had by no means the worst of the game. The game was drawn at

Liverpool against University College, after a very hard match. After a very unsatisfactory game we were badly beaten by Tadcaster. In the second term, the only time the College sustained their reputation was in the match against Headingley, whom, with a team in which there were several second team men, we succeeded in beating by 8 points to 6 points. Out of 15 matches played, 7 were won, 7 lost, and 1 drawn.

Haigham at full back was good, though too light for defensive work, but kicked very well. McPhail was the best of the three-quarters, though Wraith played very well at times. Of the halves, Ellis and Leitch were good, but unfortunately never played together. Lister was only moderate. Of the forwards, in our opinion, these at least might have been replaced by better men from the second team. We wish some forwards could be impressed with the idea that the pool is their proper place, and not hampering the three-quarter backs.

Only twice did men fail to turn up after they had promised. The meanness of this action must be apparent to all. The gentlemen on the Committee who turned up to the first Aris v. Medicals match, and refused to play because there was some difficulty in getting a hall, should be ashamed of himself by now.

Finally the Second Fifteen has, under the energetic captaincy of Mr. Landsmann, had a very successful season. We wish Rugby football every success at the College next year.

#### Second Fifteen Matches.

Since Christmas, the Second Fifteen have been doing well, having played 5 matches, 4 of which have been won, and the other drawn. The first match of the term was against Bradford Grammar School, at Bradford. After a keen game the match ended in a draw, both sides scoring an unconverted try. The next four matches were all played at home, and resulted in victories for the Second. The first home match was against a scratch Bradford team, and resulted in the College Second winning by 15 points to nil. On February 9th, our opponents were Huddersfield Technical College, whom we were anxious to defeat, having been beaten at Huddersfield last term by a try to nil. The game was one of the best the Second have had this season. The ground being dry, the play was mostly open. On the call of time the score was Yorkshire College Second, 6 points; Huddersfield, 5 points.

Carlton were the next team to be met. The ground was wet and heavy, so play was mostly of a forward nature. Soon after the start, Hood, following up a kick, scored, and Telson converted. Carlton then pressed, and one of their halves dropped a very neat goal. In the second half no further score was added. Our forwards played well, and were chiefly responsible for the result—Yorkshire College Second, 5 points; Carlton, 4 points.

The next match was against Crossley, who were easily defeated by 30 points to nil. Before the match the team were photographed, and consisted of the following, who have represented the Second in most of their matches this season:—Full back, S. Tolson; Three-quarters, Jules, C. Ballintyne, C. T. Firth, E. C. Hood; Half-backs, A. B. Landsmann (capt.), Lee; Forwards, Adams, H. E. O'Brien, R. N. Butterworth, R. J. Longley, J. A. Longley, A. R. Garbutt, and Barron. The following have also played:—Half back, Carr; Three-quarters, Flower; Forwards, Appleton, Wemyss, and A. B. S. Todd.

The match against Headingley Second was cancelled by Headingley. However, six of the Second assisted the College First in defeating Headingley First. Also both the tries for the College were scored by ex-Second men, namely, Lee and Jules.

#### Correspondence.

To the Editor of "The Gryphon."

DEAR SIR,

In your last number appeared a letter from "Socer," who complains that the Association Second Team fixtures are arranged with clubs that are too strong, with the result that inevitable defeat is experienced. He complains that they are always First Eleven teams that are opposed, but we should like to call his attention to the fact that very few of the local clubs run a second team. As for arranging fixtures away, they are things not to be entered lightly upon, seeing what a Herculean task it is getting a team to go. Witness the Huddersfield Wednesday match, when the attractions of the Pantomime Match proved so strong that the match had to be abandoned. "Socer" says he is a fairly regular player; we congratulate him on that fact, and heartily wish more would follow his example, for therein lies the remedy. It is not the superiority of their opponents that is the cause of the monotonous defeats so much as the constant variation of the team, through three or four men "crossing off" each week. For instance, on February 12th, out of 22 men put up to play football, 14 crossed off, with the result that the members of the committee have to spend Saturday morning hunting men to fill their places, notwithstanding the fact that they have work to do like anyone else. Under such circumstances, we ask "Socer," in all fairness, if it is surprising that the Second Team is so often on the losing side? Let every player make football his first engagement on Saturday, and not, as is so often the case, a thing which can be put off for anything better that turns up, and we guarantee that a team would soon be put together which could play a good game with any club on this year's list. Perhaps, next season, a few less formidable clubs will be asked for fixtures; in fact, it will be necessary unless the Second

## The Gryphon.

Team is better supported. In conclusion, we should like to ask a certain section of the players, when anything goes wrong, to ascertain the facts of the case before they blame the Secretaries.

We are, yours truly,

C. M. WHITTAKER, } Hon. Sec.,  
F. W. JOHNSON, } A.F.C.

To the Editor of "The Gryphon."

DEAR SIR,

Will you allow me space for a few lines with reference to the attendance at the College Gymnasium.

Why is it that more students do not join this institution? Is it that the hours fixed for classes are inconvenient, and that would-be members cannot attend, or is it not rather that in the majority of cases, they will not find the time, simply because it is too much trouble. It is a certain amount of trouble, of course, but not more than that required by any other form of athletic exercise, such as tennis, football, or cricket.

Perhaps students think it must be slow, without even joining for a term to see, but if once they gave gymnastics a fair trial, they would find them neither slow nor unexciting, and certainly would reap plenty of benefit from them; more, in fact, than by attempting to abnormally develop the mind by playing chess, directly the day's work is over, and in consequence neglecting the physical development of the body.

The Gymnasium is quite big enough for the requirements of the students, certainly until they present themselves in such overwhelming numbers as to prevent the possibility of moving (a contingency which, in the existing state of affairs, is not likely to present itself); it is well provided with apparatus, and there is an excellent instructor; and last, but not least, the members of the Staff have set us an example in organising a class.

Why should there not be as good an attendance at our Gymnasium, and as much enthusiasm for gymnastics, as at Owens, and why should we not have a representative team, as they have, and be able to compete with our sister Colleges—make, in fact, the Inter-Collegiate Competition an event in the year, and show them that we can be as energetic and as good athletes as they?

Yours hopefully,

ONE WHO DOES ATTEND.

To the Editor of "The Gryphon."

DEAR SIR,

As a student of the Yorkshire College, interested in College affairs, I attended the Parliamentary debate, held about a month ago, and hoped to have an enjoyable and instructive evening. In this, however, I was disappointed, as, owing to the disturbance

caused by the majority of students present, it was very hard to hear the speeches and well-nigh impossible to understand them. Why is it that the average Yorkshire College student takes such a delight in trying to make his voice heard above those of his fellow-students? Is it because he is only just out of short frocks, or is it because he does not know how to behave himself? I trust the latter is not the cause. He shows his love of a disturbance without regard for time, place, or his fellowmen; even during lectures, when, more than at any other time, quiet and order are needed, he makes his presence known by trying to kick the seats to pieces and make holes in the floor, and he generally amuses himself for the few minutes preceding a lecture in the same way. This behaviour has always struck me as being extremely disrespectful to both professors and women-students, and I hope a time will come when the students, as a whole, will think the same.

Yours, etc.,

R. A. TODD.

To the Editor of "The Gryphon."

SIR,

Will you kindly allow me, through your columns, to vent a grievance? I write as an Arts Student specially interested in English Literature; but there is not wanting evidence to show that other students suffer in like manner to myself.

The period of English literature set for the Victoria Final B.A., is the "Elizabethan." Accordingly, about twenty volumes, illustrating the writings of dramatists of that period, have been procured for the use of students during this, the second term of the session. I should like to suggest to those responsible for the conduct of the College Library, that in future, such books be got either before the commencement of the session, or very early in the first term.

But this is not the sum of the evils. It seems to have been forgotten that the Library is for the students. These same books on arrival were duly cut, placed on the shelf, carefully wrapped in a napkin, and labelled "Please do not touch." I have looked for this veil to be lifted, but up to March 1st in vain.

The mismanagement seems to be all the worse, since, in all probability, these same volumes will not be required, except casually, until the period is again set for the Victoria Examinations—three or four years hence.

I should like to ask if this injustice is due to neglect, indifference, or red tape. As it is an injustice to the student, and benefits nobody, I hope the authorities will pray with the poet.

"Oh, wad some power the gifts gie us,

To see oursel's as others see us."

and that as a result, such bad management and injustice may disappear.

Yours faithfully,

UNCONVENTIONAL.



WANTED! A STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL.

To the Editor of "The Gryphon."

DEAR SIR,

At the meeting held the other day to consider the question of compulsory membership of the Students' Union, the need of a largely representative executive was strongly urged by all the speakers.

It is to be hoped that the idea of student representation will not be allowed to slide away from our minds. Student representation has not hitherto been a potent factor in our midst, but the existence of Students' Representative Councils in the case of the sister Colleges of our own University surely forms a strong argument in favour of our College doing likewise. It is a matter of reproach that our College has no S.R.C., and that the students have no voice in their corporate capacity. The time is now ripe for united action in the removal of that apathetic state of mind so painfully familiar to all of us. Let us as a body show ourselves thinking vibrantly, and not mere passive jelly fishes.

Yours faithfully,

CHAM O' TARTAR.

To the Editor of "The Gryphon."

DEAR SIR,

As I did not see the proof of my article in your issue of Feb. 1st, I shall be much obliged if you will allow me to say that on p. 23 (last two lines), for "*parade its streets*" should be read "*adventously permebrate her streets*," that on p. 25, line 7, "*spring knave*" should be "*spring knives*," and that *Thackeray* and *Tenniel* have also a case against your compositor.

The end of the cupping instrument joke was curious. The knives produce a characteristic indelible symmetrical scar. This was so much admired in Court circles that it became the raging fashion.

With best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

J. B. HELLIER.

February 17th, 1898.

To the Editor of "The Gryphon."

DEAR SIR,

I believe there are members of the Athletic Union who, like myself, would be glad in the approaching season to play cricket regularly, but who are unable to gain a place in the First Eleven team.

We cannot all play for the First Eleven, but surely it would be possible to form a moderately strong second team to play those teams round about Leeds that are rather too weak for the College First.

I have come across students, and I daresay there are many more, who would play if an opportunity were given them. Last summer there certainly was a movement to form a Second Eleven, and I believe I am right in stating that there were considerably more students willing to play than were required, but the teams that represented the College in the two Second Eleven matches that were played were by no means representative.

Surely, if it were a matter of no difficulty to gather such a team, little or no difficulty need be experienced in forming a Second Eleven more or less representative.

Would it not be possible to arrange inter-University matches with Owens and University Colleges, who could, I should think, each put two elevens into the field without much difficulty?

If the Union officials do not see their way to form a Second Eleven for the approaching season, I hope, if the Council approves of the motion carried at a general meeting of the students on February 4th, to reduce the Union fee and make it compulsory, that as soon as this rule should come into force, a Second and even a Third Eleven be formed, and that students will do their best to support them and make them thoroughly representative.

Hoping, Sir, that through the medium of your columns this letter may receive the notice and attention of the Union officials, and that they will do their utmost to form another eleven,

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

A MEMBER OF THE ATHLETIC UNION.

YORKSHIRE COLLEGE,

LEEDS, February 28th, 1898.

To the Editor of "The Gryphon."

DEAR SIR,

I noted with pleasure the suggestion of Mr. Sugden in the last number of *The Gryphon* that a concert should be held with the object of bettering the financial position of the College; but while the idea is good, I think the same object might be attained in a way which would also give still greater opportunities for that social intercourse which, as Mr. Sugden so justly remarked, is sadly lacking amongst the various members and sections of the College—that is, by a dance or social.

## The Gryphon.

A disastrous attempt at rapid locomotion over the floor of the large hall has convinced me that the co-efficient of friction between the said floor and shoe leather is sufficiently small to allow of a comfortable performance, without any further treatment, of the intricate evolutions of the lancers or the graceful whirling stances of the waltz.

The majority of the ladies are doubtless dancers, and, I believe, quite a respectable proportion of the gentlemen also, and with several hundred people to sell tickets, the affair could hardly fail to be financially and socially a great success.

Another matter mentioned by a correspondent I should also like to touch upon, namely, the very "Union" (Workhouse)-like character of the furniture and accommodation in the rooms of the Athletic Union. The other day, under circumstances which nothing but wild horses shall drag from me, I paid a visit to the Ladies' Common Room, and was astounded at the comfort and palatial fittings thereof—lounges, basket-chairs, carpets, and skin rugs abound "in grate profusion" (See Artemus Ward). Certainly, the ladies ought to be better provided for than the gentlemen; but why such a difference? Any answer will be gratefully received by

Yours very truly,

"BRASIDAS."

OFFICINA "SANTA ISABEL."

TOON, CHILE, February 26th, 1898.

To the Editor of "The Gryphon," Yorkshire College, Leeds.

DEAR SIR,

The first number of this "new" Yorkshire College Journal has just come to hand, 10,000 and odd miles away from Leeds, and I, together with every other Collegiate, both past and present, must wish it success. Such a paper, whose object is so ably stated, ought to produce more feeling of unity and recognition of the "Alma mater" than has hitherto existed at the College, provided that the Committee are not hampered by shortness of interest and funds, which always causes extinction of any such undertaking. Most of your readers will be well aware that the Athletic Union was formed, not only as a union of clubs, but also had for its object the desire to unite all the students of the College into social existence; but the subscription of 7s. 6d. with the only outward advantage of the Debating Society and Reading Room, was an effectual barrier to many who were in reality well-wishers of the scheme, but whose pockets would

not stand such a drain on its resources. I am of opinion that many past students, now spread over the face of the earth, would become subscribers to the paper, did they know of its existence; but, on the other hand, a subscription of 2s. annually is very difficult to remit, and so I would suggest to the Committee that they should make some, say five yearly, or life subscription, which would be more convenient for us, and would possibly effectually prevent extinction from want of funds. I am inclined to think that the Principal and Professor Smithells would favour some such scheme, and could give you the names of those past students most likely to become readers of your paper. With best wishes for the continued success of your efforts.

I am,

Yours very truly,

E. CLAUDE P. BARRIE.

To the Editor of "The Gryphon."

DEAR SIR,

May I trespass on your space to call attention to what I consider an absurd rule at present obtaining in the College. It is that telegrams are not delivered to students, but simply placed in the window of the Porter's Office. I will give a hypothetical example, which, I think, is a very possible one, to prove my statement. Suppose a student is at work in one of the various College Labs. for three hours at a stretch, such cases being by no means uncommon; say a telegram comes for him at 9.30 telling him to catch the 10.15 train for ——— for some urgent reason. The telegram lies in the Porter's Office whilst the student, unconscious of the fact, works in the Lab. till say 12.30, and on passing the Porter's Office gets the telegram asking him to catch the 10.15 train. Well, if that student is only human it is 10 to 1 he will use unacademic language. Surely it needs no more words to emphasize the ridiculousness of this rule.

I am,

Yours truly,

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

[Since receiving the above letter, a case has come before our notice in which an important telegram would have been rendered entirely useless to the recipient had it not been seen by a fellow student, and taken by him to the department.—Ed.]

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