



"The Gryphon never spreads his wings in the course when she hath any such feathers; yet have we ventured to present our exercises before your judgments when we knew them full of many matter; yielding ourselves to the carities which we have ever found than to the precautions which we ought to fear."—1713.

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PERHAPS nothing has been more productive of world progress than the sense of discontent with existing conditions. It is, therefore, without uneasiness that we observe in the College at the present time many symptoms which seem to betoken a general dissatisfaction with prevailing circumstances. Some find matter for complaint in the relations between student and student; others, too, are burning with secret longing to discuss the proposed change in the College colours, but, in all these upheavals there seems to be one common impulse, namely, a desire to promote greater efficiency. It may be that the new University which is hovering around is quickening in us this spontaneous criticism, but whatever be the cause,

there is reason for congratulation in the healthy signs that are being thus manifested. Under these circumstances we can, with reasonable confidence, direct our readers' careful attention to the several articles and correspondence which have reference to many aspects of this question.

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The *Conversazione* will soon be upon us. For various reasons during the past few years this important function—which in our opinion is the chief social event of College life—has not been favoured with the success which one would like to see attached to it. On the promoters of the approaching *Conversazione* rests the heavy responsibility of removing the reasonable causes for complaint which have been existent in previous years. But the promoters can do no more than create the environment suitable for success. The students, and they alone, can create the success itself. Let us all then give the *Conversazione* our hearty support, and by so doing incidentally show our gratitude to those who have, so ungrudgingly, spent much valuable time in organising this event.

An account is given in these columns of the Students' Demonstration on the occasion of the visit of the Hon. Mr. Joseph Chamberlain to Leeds in December last. If numbers are any criterion of success, then the demonstration must be judged a huge success. Such events share with smoking concerts the merit of being prolific of friendship-making opportunities for the students. This alone is a sufficient excuse for our hope that the kind fates will turn towards Leeds the footsteps of some other prominent man before the present session is over.

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A letter will be found in our Correspondence Column complaining of the lukewarm reception accorded to the new Associates in December last. We can only say with the poet that "If it were so, it was a grievous fault." And, if we are able to assume that the function of receiving Associates was a good thing in itself then "grievously hath Caesar answer'd it;" for in the new University, it is said, the College authorities are going to dispense with the custom of the receiving of Associates.

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Students will have already noticed that the Union Committee have issued a scheme respecting the proposed adoption of new College colours. Two things are to be noted, first, that the Committee consider it desirable to have a root-and-branch change, and secondly, that the new scheme goes forth, it is said, with the unanimous approval of the Committee. The question is a very important one, and it behoves every student to give much consideration to the subject before coming to any definite decision. The general meeting which was convened for the purpose of considering this question, we had looked forward to with pleasure, as we were convinced that it would need much solid argument satisfactorily to explain such a decided breaking away from tradition and to justify the great variety of colours that had been embodied in the new proposals.

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We have been almost besieged this month with the number of contributions sent in for this number, a fact which is very gratifying to our Editorial vanity. Our darling hope is that the many crystal streams which have begun to emerge from Minerva's fount, will not be fitful in their course like an Australian river, but will continue to be

"Though deep, yet clear; though gentle, yet not dull;
Strong without rage, without efforting—full!"

On the other hand, the circulation of the *Gryphon* is not what it ought to be. Every student in the College should consider it a point of honour to be a subscriber to the College Magazine, and then we should not be left with a large number of copies of each issue undisposed of, as is the case at present. Let each student reflect on the necessity there is for giving support to the *Gryphon*, in preference to making enquiry as to the possibility of reducing its cost. A true answer to the former question would appease automatically any student's cravings in the other direction.

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The question of academic dress has at last passed from the humorous to the business stage, for the Students' Union Committee have now been asked to consider the matter. Again, too, we have received correspondence bearing on this question. Personally we think that there is far too little ritual in the College, and that our College life is made far too prosaic and colourless; consequently we are heartily in favour of any scheme which will bring within the scope of practical politics the many suggestions which are being put forward at the present time respecting the wearing of academic costume.

The Musical Evening.

THE Soirée flourishes exceedingly under its new name, and promises to become an annual event of some importance in the social life of the Union. The Men's Dining Room at the Refectory was crowded to the uttermost on Friday, December 4th, and a most enjoyable evening was spent by all present. The Refectory had been tastefully decorated for the occasion. Its bare and chilling walls smiled under their suffusion of art muslin, tricked with lingering ivy; and the cold electric light positively glowed on the assembled company from beneath their crimson mantlets.

About 8 o'clock Messrs. R. W. Hutchinson and Powys Davies set the ball rolling with a rattling Sousa-like pianoforte duet, which had the useful effect of making everyone feel easy and not unduly alarmed at the sound of his (or her) own voice. Then Miss V. Rogers gave "Fairest Lullaby;" the same lady sang in the second half. "She wandered down the mountain side," both items being very agreeably rendered. It is impossible to go through the long programme in detail. Certainly the most attractive things on the programme were the violin solos of Miss Dorothy Raven—Cavatina (Raf) and Heine Kati (*Jens Høiby*)—both of which were rapturously encored. Miss Raven exhibited splendid

powers of execution with a rare musical feeling in her varied selection, and all present hoped that they had not heard her for the last time.

The humorous burden of the entertainment rested on Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Durrant, who both came out with flying colours. Mr. Hutchinson repeated the triumph which we are becoming used to associate with his name in the line of drawing-room entertainment; that pathetic picture of domestic bliss, "When Father laid the carpet on the stairs" scored an inevitable encore, as also did "Serial Story," Mr. Hutchinson's second venture. "Mr. Durrant's songs," "Under the circumstances" and "Hints to Inventors" made us think what a great number of good mirth provoking songs there were outside the "Mother-in-law." For an encore Mr. Durrant gave "Since Angelina joined the Cooking Class."

A feature of the programme was the dialogue of Miss Gunnell and Miss Edwards, entitled "Geese." Both ladies showed great powers of Yorkshire dialect, with most comic effect. Miss Naylor received an enthusiastic encore for "Auntie Doleful's Visit," which is much cleverer than the average recitation. Mr. F. H. Battle was responsible for "The Ballad of Splendid Silence" and "The Dandy Fifth," both of which were well received.

The serious songs fell to Mrs. Schüddekopé, Miss M. Wilson, and Mr. Pevensy Davies. All of them sang of "the old, old theme" and all of them received encores.

Needless to say, refreshments were passing round during the concert, served up in the Refectory's best style. At the close, well-deserved cheers were given for Miss Raven, Miss Dodgson, and Mr. Battle, the Secretaries responsible for the decorations and arrangements; the company separating about 11 o'clock.

Adventures of Heywood King.

THE STOLEN AQUALUBE.

I was observing the sag of a metal bar in the Physics Lab, with the extreme care usually displayed in conducting such operations, when the field of view suddenly became dark as night. I at once deduced from this fact, that a foreign object had been interposed between the scale on the bar, and the telescope. On looking up my deduction was confirmed. The foreign object was a human hand; moreover it belonged to Hartridge.

"You are under a delusion, old man, putting your hand in front of the telescope in that way; I'm not a palmitist," I observed.

"Don't try to be funny," said Hartridge, "but tell me where I can find King."

"What'd you want King for? Lost anything?" I asked.

"Yes; my aqualube mysteriously disappeared yesterday afternoon; nearly under my own eyes in fact."

The tone in which Hartridge said this showed me that he was deeply moved. The aqualube was an

instrument unknown to me, and must certainly have been valuable judging from the effect its loss had had upon Hartridge. Being a physicist I was loath to confess my ignorance of it, but curiosity overcame pride, as is general in such cases, and I asked him what an aqualube was.

My query brought a new light into the eyes of Hartridge, and he answered me with the enthusiasm of an artist over his first picture.

"You have heard of a wash bottle?" said he. I nodded assent.

"Well; the wash bottle is the first piece of apparatus the would-be chemist has to make. Hours of precious time are spent upon its construction; yards of tubing are bent until two pieces are obtained with supplementary angles; corks have to be bored; and finally it has to pass the critical eye of the demonstrator. When properly made it is the joy of the chemist's heart, his one and only treasure; and then you give it, after all this trouble, hope, joy, and often despair, the miserable name of wash bottle." Hartridge was warming to his subject. "I realised the great indignity of this injustice, and henceforth the term, 'wash bottle' is struck out of my vocabulary, and in its place, *Aqualube* is inscribed."

"Wonderful!" I remarked. "Let's find King, and see if he can recover this marvellous instrument for you."

King, as I expected, was in the smoke room. It was the hour of "tuppenny tea," and King being a non-ten-drinker had a pipe of B.D.V. instead in the smoke room. I was glad that we had come upon him at such a propitious moment; no doubt the B.D.V. would stimulate his thoughts, and the aqualube would be speedily forthcoming.

Hartridge recited his woes to King.

He had been working in the Chem. Lab. on the afternoon in question, his aqualube being on the bench along with other pieces of apparatus. He went to get a new salt from the demonstrator, was only absent for about three minutes in fact, then returned and found his apparatus just as he left it, minus, of course, the aqualube. Enquiry from those working round about failed to give any clue as to who had taken it, so as a last resort therefore I have come to you. Hartridge said these last words in a pleading kind of tone, evidently wishing to influence King to make some attempt to recover the aqualube.

"What do you offer if you get it back?" asked King.

"Sixpence," said Hartridge, avoiding my reproachful glance. The aqualube was not so valuable after all.

"Right," said King. "Come up into the lab. in five minutes and I will try and get it for you by then."

With that he knocked the ashes out of his pipe and went out of the room.

Hartridge carefully timed him, and in five minutes we were in the top lab. King was there, and, spying us, held the wash bottle triumphantly aloft.

"Thanks," said Hartridge, "here's the sixpence; who took it?"

King bit the sixpence to see it was a good one, placed it in his pocket, and then walked deliberately

round to the other side of the bench. Having thus placed the bench between himself and Hartridge, he said:—"I borrowed it to wash a precipitate with." Hartridge looked daggers at him, and would have run round the bench to get to him. King was too short however, he had gone to the demonstrator to see if his salt was right. As I passed towards the folding doors I heard him saying "cooper, tin, carbonate, chloride."

College Athletic News.

Rugby Football.

December 24.—**LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY** at Liverpool. At the start the visitors pressed, but weak forward play allowed the Liverpool men to gain a footing in the College quarters, and but for the fine defence of Auty, Crump, and Dobson they would certainly have scored. Liverpool did most of the pressing up to half-time, nothing however being scored. In the second half the College went badly pressed, Sam Hensh breaking his nose for the second week in succession but failed to retire. The College three-quarters started a round of passing, twice Auty and Duncanson getting over. Towards the end Liverpool did all the pressing, and but for the fine defence of our backs none have scored several times, "no side" being called with the result a pointless draw.

COLLEGE XV.—Full back, E. Dobson; three-quarters, A. Richardson, J. S. Auty, E. McPhail, H. Duncanson; half-backs, S. T. Crump, J. S. Richardson; forwards, W. H. A. Elliott, J. E. Viccars, J. W. Cameron, S. L. Heald, R. Lightfoot, F. A. Battle, J. W. Ellis, B. W. Elliott.

December 12th.—**OLD DEWBORNIANS**. This match resulted in a win for the Old Dewbornians by a goal to six. During the first half the only bits of good play seen as attempts to kick a penalty goal by Auty, and a dribble by Lightfoot of nearly three-quarter length of the ground, but as there was no one backing him up nothing came of it. In the second half the Old Dewbornians scored a try which was converted, Viccars being hurt but to retire, H. Heald failed to take up, so Cameron played three-quarter, and we had only seven forwards.

COLLEGE XV.—Full-back, G. Holroyd; three-quarters, H. Duncanson, E. Dobson, J. S. Auty, J. N. Cameron; half-backs, Crump, J. S. Richardson; forwards, Elliott (captain), Viccars, Lightfoot, Battle, Ellis, C. M. Whitehead.

January 12th.—**OLD DEWBORNIANS** at Dewsbury. The College forwards started very well, carrying all the scrums, at the start, but effects of Xmas holidays came on and the better training of the home team reversed matters, two bad mistakes on the part of our backs allowed the Old Dewbornians to score twice, one of which Graham converted. Setcliffe scored for us, but Elliott failed at goal. The home team again pressed and scored an unconverted try.

Result.—Old Dewbornians, 11 points; College, 3 points.

COLLEGE XV.—Full back, D. F. Dobson; three-quarters, H. Setcliffe, G. S. Richardson, E. McPhail, A. Richardson; half-backs, J. S. Richardson, H. M. Heald; forwards, W. H. A. Elliott (captain), J. W. Ellis, H. McLaren, C. M. Whitehead, K. Lightfoot, J. E. Viccars, J. N. Cameron, J. McLaren.

WAKEFIELD V. YORKSHIRE COLLEGE.

At Wakefield, The visitors at once began to attack, and the home team being penalised Richardson kicked a goal. The College men kept up the attack, and a passing bout

among the visiting backs ended in Viccars getting over, Elliott failed at the goal. The visitors now held the upper hand, but Ellis and Firth defended well. Just before half-time was called Wakefield got over, but the try was not allowed. At half-time the score was—Yorkshire College 1 penalty goal, 1 try (6 points), Wakefield nil. In the second half the home team took play to the visitors' quarters, and Blake scored a try, Ward failing at goal. Soon after Ward got over, but Firth failed at goal. The visitors played up better. Wakefield were penalised again in front of the posts, but Richardson failed at the place. Result.—Yorkshire College, 1 penalty goal, 1 try (6 points); Wakefield, 2 tries (6 points).

COLLEGE XV.—Full back, G. Holroyd; three-quarters, W. E. Bilborough, E. Dobson, G. S. Richardson, W. E. Eschler; half-backs, J. S. Richardson, H. M. Heald; forwards, W. H. A. Elliott, G. Lightfoot, H. McLaren, J. W. Ellis, J. W. Cameron, C. M. Whitehead, J. E. Viccars, T. F. F. Johnson.

Association Football.

1st XI.—**THE NOMADS**, Won, 7-0.

2. SHEFFIELD HASTINGS, Won, 4-1.

3. ROYALHAM AMATEURS, Won, 3-0.

The visitors turned up with only nine men, so had the assistance of Landon and Owen. From the outset College outplayed them; play, and White's score headed the first goal from a good centre by Brown, and Steward headed a second from a corner by Flint. Still pressing Watson scored a third with a long shot, which the goalkeeper misjudged, and before half-time Humble added a fourth. In the second half College pressed continuously, but could only score once through Winking, thus leaving us victors by 4 goals to nothing.

TEAM.—Goal, Cooper; backs, Watson, Lidbetter; half-backs, Flint, Skeby, Steward; forwards, Hamble, Stapleton, Whitlock, Whiting, Brown.

2. PUDSEY, Won, 5-2. Played at Pudsey. The home team at the commencement attacked vigorously, and gave the College defence plenty to do. College, however, were the first to score through Brown, after a good run, and shortly after Humble added rather an easy goal. At half-time we led by 2 goals to nil. Immediately on the restart Pudsey rushed away, but were prevented from scoring. On the College again attacking Brown scored a third goal with a grand shot, and had hard lines with another which hit the post. Pudsey then attacked by means of sharp passes, and from one of these the inside right scored with a splendid shot. Stapleton then added two more for College with good shots, and just on this the home team obtained a lucky goal from a corner.

TEAM.—Goal, Cooper; backs, Reader and Lidbetter; half-backs, Flint, Skelley, Steward; forwards, Hamble, Stapleton, Whitlock, Whiting, Brown.

2nd XI.—**HARRGATE CORESTREANS** (AL LOBI, 7-5).

3. HARRGATE HAYWRA, Cancelled.

4. LEEDS AMATEURS, Lost 2-3.

Scientific Society.

The third meeting of the society was held in the Physics Lecture Theatre. Dr. Patterson took the chair at 5.30, when Mr. Raper read his Paper on "The Purification of Sewage."

Before the year 1865, no process worthy of the name was adopted for the purification of sewage. The condition of the rivers into which the sewage was discharged was so bad that a Royal Commission was appointed to consider the matter. As a consequence of this several laws were passed, prohibiting the pollution of rivers; the offending authorities had, therefore, to devise some satisfactory method of purification.

The various processes which have been adopted up to the present may be grouped under two heads—Chemical and Biological. In the Chemical methods various reagents are used to precipitate the impurities, but generally only about fifty per cent. of them are removed. A farther disadvantage of these methods is that a large amount of sludge is obtained, which is valueless and difficult to dispose of. The Biological methods are divided into two classes, aerobic and anaerobic. In the aerobic treatment the purification is brought about by bacteria which oxidize the nitrogenous organic matter to nitrate. To bring this about a large amount of oxygen is required, hence, the bacteria beds have to be thoroughly aerated between each application of sewage. A very high purification is obtained by this method, but it is too expensive for practical use, as the beds soon become silted up, and have to be replaced. In the anaerobic treatment, the sewage is allowed to remain in a tank containing septic sludge for about a day. The action of the bacteria in this process is to decompose some of the solid impurities in the sewage, and thus decrease the amount of sludge. The process is not very satisfactory however. Combinations of the various processes have been tried, and give more satisfactory results than the processes applied singly. The best combination is that of chemical precipitation followed by aerobic treatment. The most satisfactory method of purification is that of sand filtration, but on account of the expense, can only be adopted when suitable land can be acquired at a cheap rate.

After the paper a discussion ensued in which Messrs. Lawson, Booth, Radcliffe, and Bennett took part. Mr. Hartley proposed, and Mr. Radcliffe seconded a vote of thanks to the lecturer for his most interesting address.

The fourth ordinary meeting of the society was held in the Physics Lecture Theatre on Thursday, December 10th, when Mr. W. Lawson read a paper on "Poisons."

After drawing attention to the great importance and interest attached to the study of this subject Mr. Lawson proceeded to trace the history of poisoners from the reign of early myths down to that of modern times; in Greece there was a dark saga which assigned to Hercules the discovery of poisonous herbs; Hercules is fabled to have used poisoned arrows, and both Homer and Ovid mention them in their writings; the early Egyptian certainly knew prussic acid in a dilute form, and in Rome the art of poisoning was cultivated to such an extent that an official "poisoner in ordinary" was appointed to one of the emperors; Socrates, Demosthenes, Hamibal, and Cleopatra all met their deaths by this agency, and their fates bring graphically to our notice the pharmaceutical knowledge of the ancients.

About the 17th century it was Italy who was the nurse of the finer arts of the poisoner, and the crimes of the woman Toffana (who was responsible for the deaths of some few persons), the Borgias and the Marquise de Brinvilliers bespeak the terrible times that existed then. The poisons used were very varied, and included such things as powdered diamond, sugar of lead ("succussion powder"), arsenic, hemlock,

and other vegetable poisons sometimes mixed with powdered lobster claws.

The crimes committed by the notorious poisoners of this time led up to a systematic study of toxicology, and the labours of Orfila in this direction bore immediate fruit and greatly extended the means of seeking and detecting poisons.

The action of poisons on the human system is very varied and dependent upon a number of circumstances, such as the age and general condition of the patient, the state of aggregation and chemical combination of the poison, and the part of membrane to which it is applied.

A satisfactory classification of poisons is extremely difficult to devise, and any attempt to do this is usually based upon their physiological effects, and they are grouped under such headings as irritants, corrosives, acenitics, etc.; the symptoms produced vary with the poison, and the effects of arsenic, corrosive sublimate, and strychnine afford fairly typical examples of the three classes mentioned above.

The minimum fatal dose of some of the poisons brings out very interesting evidence of their extreme potency; 2 milligrams in the case of aconite, and 45 milligrams in that of strychnine have proved fatal to man, whilst 1/100 milligram of one of the ptomaines was sufficient to kill a rabbit within 24 hours. The sale of poisons in Great Britain is, by law, subjected to very stringent regulations, and justly so, since in spite of all the precautions taken an annual death roll of some 1,000 persons is attributable to their agency.

The ptomaines or animal alkaloids form a very interesting class of bodies, and the work of Soloni, Gautier, and Brieger opened up the way for an explanation of the poisonous effects which, at times, follow the consumption of pork, tinned goods, high game, and other diseased meat.

Within recent years the subject of toxins and antitoxins has come to the fore very prominently, and the researches of Dr. Calmette, who devoted himself to a study of the means of securing immunity from snake bites, present one sphere of this domain in a most fascinating and interesting manner; when one considers the extreme virulence of this poison, and the almost lightning rapidity of its action, it is indeed a triumph to have succeeded in producing a serum with such protective and curative properties as that which Dr. Calmette was at length able to prepare and which has already been productive of such excellent results.

The difference between natural and artificially acquired immunity opens up a most interesting problem, and the process of gradually acclimatizing animals to a particular poison by repeated doses of the same poison recalls the old proverb "Seek your salve where you get your sore," and affords some explanation of the immunity enjoyed by certain savage snake charmers, who made a practice of eating the reptiles they handled with such harmless results.

Mr. Lawson concluded by especially inviting a discussion on the subject, and urged the advantages

to be derived from such a practice whenever time permitted.

In response questions were asked by Dr. Patterson, Miss Barton, Messrs. Scholefield, Radcliffe, Bennett, Ellis, Allen, and Jenkins, after which Dr. Crowther proposed, and Mr. Booth seconded a vote of thanks to Mr. Lawson, who briefly replied, and the meeting terminated about 6.40.

Debating Society.

THE question to be discussed on January 25th was "Does the Union Committee deserve the confidence of the College?"

Mr. Fisher was to answer this question in the negative, and Mr. F. A. Battle to oppose him. To the disgust of the Free Traders present the accommodation of the Smoke Room was taxed to its utmost limit when Mr. Fisher opened his speech. His chief arguments were directed against the method of electing the Committee; the present Committee, if it was good, was accidentally so. He outlined a scheme of election which did away with the evils of the present system. The Committee in so far as they did not represent the whole interest of the College, could not expect to be supported by this whole interest at the social functions organised by them. He then had a tilt at the Rugby Football team, saying the men were chosen not by merit, but by what wealth they possessed. The Secretary, when Mr. Fisher started to mention the Rugby team, beamed with satisfaction; he evidently thought that even Mr. Fisher would have nothing but praise for the club and the team. But when the speaker criticised the method of selection, Mr. McLaren's countenance changed, first to one of incredulity and then to a thirst-for-his-blood sort of look. But our hopes of a row were not realised. His friend's pleadings and the soothing smile of the Chairman quieted the audacious intentions that had been roused in the bosom of the worthy R. F. Secretary. Throughout the excitement the Union Chairman maintained his calm serenity of manner, that attribute of a superior mind.

Mr. Battle then rose to champion the cause of the Union Committee. His face, usually the abiding place of a winning smile, now truly told of the feelings of wounded pride and righteous wrath that surged within him. In spite of his warlike name, he said, he was a man of peace (cries of dissent). His super-human will-power had only just been sufficient to keep him in his seat during Mr. Fisher's tirade against the Committee. He pooh-poohed the idea of altering the present method of election. He read a list of names of men and the posts in the different College clubs and societies they held; these men were all on the Union Committee; thus the Committee was composed of the workers of the College. His innate modesty held him from adding his own name to the list. He then went on to detail some of the work done by the Committee and said that however hard

the Committee toiled to ensure the success of smokers, conversaziones, etc., their object would never be accomplished unless they were backed up by the cooperation of the students.

In the general discussion, Mr. Hartley was the first to speak. Mr. Fisher's scheme of election would, he said, encourage departmentalism; and this, he thought, should always be striven against. He had never found this exclusiveness which Mr. Fisher had spoken of. Mr. Hartley has been trained in, and is an expert at, the art of analysis; so, if in his researches in connection with the salt of College life, he has discovered no trace of the acid of exclusiveness—well, Mr. Fisher must have discovered something akin to the gold in the mine of the latest bubble company. The outlay on athletics had been condemned by Mr. Fisher; but, in spite of this, Mr. Hartley had the temerity to think otherwise.

Mr. Ward then followed, and gave an estimate of the hours spent by members of the Committee in doing College work. Really, the Committee are very hard worked, said Mr. Ward.

Mr. Landmann criticised Mr. Fisher's scheme of election.

Mr. Kenworthy deplored the miserly spirit of those students who wanted the price of the *Gryphon* reducing to rd., and who would not attend College functions because they entailed payment.

Mr. Kay characterised Mr. Kenworthy's remarks as insulting.

The Committee were then belauded by the Union Chairman; he praised their work, commended their carefulness in money matters, and altogether was so enthusiastic on their behalf that there was much hiding of blushes behind note books.

Mr. Fisher then replied, and emphasised his previous arguments.

A vote was taken, with the result:—

For the Affirmative	18 votes.
For the Negative	20 votes.

Literary & Historical Society.

AN interesting paper was read by Miss Gunnell on "Yorkshire Superstitious," at the meeting of the Literary Society on Monday, the 18th of January. In the absence of the President, the subject was introduced by Miss Melville. Miss Gunnell opened her paper by showing how varied are the origins of superstition, and proceeded to describe how the individual who is blessed by fate may hold a charmed life from babyhood to the grave. The paper was not very long, and so there was time for many interesting details, which were added by Miss Melville, Miss Johnson, Mr. Hepworth, Mr. Landman, and Mr. Landon, who, as Secretary, spoke with "an eye to business." Although the audience was only small, it was none the less appreciative, and seemed to find much amusement in the customs of its ancestors.

Department Notes.

Agricultural Society.

The third ordinary meeting of the society was held on December 9th, with Mr. R. C. Gaut in the chair. It was the night for impromptu speeches, and all the members present were called upon to speak for a period not exceeding five minutes on a subject provided. Most of the members were present, and all of them made excellent speeches.

The fourth ordinary meeting was held on January 13th, when Mr. R. C. Gaut again occupied the chair.

The subject of debate was "That it is more profitable to the farmer to breed, rear, and fatten his own cattle than to buy store cattle and fatten them."

Affirmative Mr. E. B. Osborne.
Negative Mr. R. G. White.

The two speakers mutually agreed that the merits of the two systems could not be compared unless the situation and extent of the farm were known. It was, therefore, agreed to fix the farm according to a suggestion made by Mr. Haydon, viz., "That the farm be one of 300 acres, rather more than half of which is arable, and which is twenty miles from a large town, and four miles from a railway station."

Mr. Osborne, in his speech, pointed out that by breeding your own cattle, not only was greater protection from disease obtained, but also a good and definite standard of perfection could better be reached.

He then described two systems which might be followed on such a farm, one of which was the keeping of Fooled Angus or Hereford cattle, allowing the calves to run with their mothers in summer, and then sending the mothers off to the butcher.

The second and more likely system was that of butter and cheese making, and here he pointed out that although a good milkster was not generally considered a good beef animal, still a fairly good all-round animal could be obtained, which would breed good fattening stock. He then gave a profit and loss account showing that the greater profit was obtained during the rearing period, and only a very small amount of the total profit was obtained during the actual fattening period.

Mr. White, in his speech, assumed fifty acres of grass on the farm capable of carrying a beast per acre, and then allowing for meadow, such a farm would carry eighty head of cattle in summer. Also the straw from the seventy acres of corn would require fifty beasts in the yards all the winter.

He then went on to show that, with this system, 120 fat cattle would be sent off the farm yearly, fifty being fed entirely on grass, fifty entirely indoors, and thirty partly on grass and partly indoors, whereas the man who breeds his own cattle, although he might have a larger number, would only be able to sell about thirty each year.

He then gave profit and loss accounts, showing a total clear profit of £80, as against a total profit of £60 in Mr. Osborne's case. He then pointed out the advantages of buying your cattle, first remarking that in a dry summer a man could buy just as many

cattle as he had grass for, and as many as he had roots for in winter. Also on going into a market he had the choice of two or three thousand cattle, and finally that if calf-rearing were successful more farmers would go in for it.

A strong discussion then took place, several members taking part, and on putting to the vote

18 voted in the Affirmative; and

3 voted in the Negative.

The fifth ordinary meeting was held on November 11th, when Mr. J. G. Stewart, M.A., B.Sc., occupied the chair, and Mr. J. E. Bridges, whom we are glad to see has recovered from his illness, read a paper on "Agricultural Cooperation."

He laid great stress on the success of Agricultural Cooperation as carried out in Italy, giving a short sketch of the methods there adopted.

In England, he said, cooperation was necessary in the stamping out of contagious diseases, and also would be very beneficial in dealing with dairy produce and eggs, as shown by the successful way in which foreigners have got a hold of our markets, and he concluded by saying that to be successful, farmers must combine, and that with the greatest possible strength.

Several members then spoke, many of whom pointed out what they considered to be great difficulties in the way of complete cooperation. Mr. Bridges referring only to the advantages to be gained from it.

A hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. Billington, and seconded by Mr. Osborne, was passed to Mr. Bridges, and the meeting closed at 8 o'clock.

R. H. A., Hon. Sec.

Education Notes.

THERE have been three important events in connection with this department, which are worthy of being chronicled. The football match (which was a tremendous success), was the most keenly contested for several years. All the players did their utmost, and, consequently, the play was very spirited. The first year was pitted against a formidable team, composed of second and third year men, but in spite of the advantages of the latter in point of weight and strength, the freshmen fought a determined battle, and only lost by 4-1. It was too muddy for the players to lie down, so that the two teams were thoroughly exhausted, when the referee whistled for half-time. On several occasions this gentleman was within an ace of scoring, but happily remembering his office, restrained himself. Towards the end of the game a hurricane came on and made the play exceedingly difficult as the seniors had to face a torrent of rain. One of the goal keepers was blown off his feet, just as the opposing centre-forward was—blown off-side. The second team captain (Mr. Waite) will find good material from among the players in this match. The defence of the seniors was too strong for the first year forwards, who were checked time and time again by F. W. Dickinson, the best man on the field.

After the match the players journeyed to the Refectory, where they were joined by many other members of the department, and the whole company sat down to tea, for which all were ready. Then Mr. Johnson having made an opening speech, the piano was opened and the singing began. Everybody was called upon to sing, bowl, or recite, and few refused. Then Mr. Downes played "Auld Lang Syne" and the company broke up, especially the players. The smoker was voted a great success, which was very true, and our hopes are for another as soon as possible.

The first meeting of the Education Society was held on Tuesday, 26th. Mr. F. B. Fisher, the new Secretary, has made a very successful start. Professor Clapham was to lecture on the teaching of history, and all who were interested expected a fine lecture.

The ladies provided tea in their own room, which soon after 5 o'clock was as busy as a bee-hive. After tea those present went to the Dyeing Lecture Theatre, which was speedily packed with attentive students. After a brief introduction by Mr. W. P. Weldon, B.Sc., Professor Clapham began his lecture. His arguments showed that he favoured teaching the social side of history rather than the political, although no rigid line could possibly be drawn between the two sides. The learning of chief dates, such as those of kings and queens, was advocated strongly, dates being pitifully described as "pegs upon which to hang historical events." After a short discussion, carried on by Mr. Hepworth and Mr. W. H. Davies, B.A., and Mr. D. J. Kay, the meeting was closed by a hearty vote of thanks to Professor Clapham for his most useful lecture.

H. LONDON.

Peeps at the Engineers.

WITH a view of encouraging physical development it is stated on good authority that a member of the Engineering staff is starting rope climbing and swimming classes to be held within steel tanks during Lab. hours.

Various budding Engineers have found considerable difficulty with the design of their pump, and have, consequently, discarded drawing instruments as they find that freehand work is more congenial, and consequently no drawing instruments will be allowed in the incubator in future.

The following were the times of the first rope climbing competition held on Tuesday, January 26th. Length of rope, 25 ft.

F. L. P-wl-y	..	1 hr. 45 mins. 58.787423 secs.
C. G. P-tr	..	39 .. 56.406 ..
P. W-lk-ss-n	..	29 .. 55.0907 ..

It has been decided to defer the award of prizes in order to ascertain whether the above results constitute a record. The competitors are still living, but F. L. P. has informed a *Gryphon* representative that he will not compete again as he is fearfully tired and strained his "muscles."

No graphical solutions in Engineering problems will be allowed in future by men taking Maths. IV. Differentiate and Integrate where possible.

Entrepay has been recommended to second year men as the best tariff which will put a stop to the "dumping" of foreign steam engines.

Union Notes.

The sixth meeting of the Committee was held on Monday, 7th December, 1903.

On the question of a grant to the Northern Universities' R.F.C., Mr. Ward proposed "That the Secretary be communicated with, in order that an official report and balance sheet could be presented to the Committee." This was seconded by Mr. Dolson, and carried. The Assistant Instructor in Gymnastics requested permission to hold a class in the Gymnasium for one night per week until Easter. The request was granted on condition that the expenses of lighting were defrayed by him.

The next item on the agenda was "The finances of the Rugby F.C." The Treasurer reported that the receipts at the Durham University v. Yorkshire College Match were £3 2s. 9d.; the subscriptions from players being 14s. 6d. The expenditure on refreshments was £5 2s., leaving a balance of £1 4s. 9d. to be defrayed by the Union.

After a lengthy discussion Mr. Connal proposed "That the account of the Rugby Football Match be passed." This was seconded by Mr. F. A. Battle, and carried.

A further proposition was made by Mr. Skelsey, seconded by Mr. Wood, and carried:—"That in future all gate money and monies received by College Football Clubs should be paid into the hands of the Union Treasurer, and that any sum required for entertainment of teams and payment of fares in excess of the ordinary grants be the subject of special application to the Union Committee."

The discussion on the adoption of cap and gown was postponed.

The seventh meeting of the Committee was held on Friday, 18th December, 1903.

A communication was read from Mr. Legge, stating "That the S.R.C. are of opinion that College Road men should have equal privileges with medicals as regards the use of five courts, seeing that it was built out of Union Funds."

The reply of the Secretary of the Northern Universities' R.F.C. was also read. His statement of the accounts was not considered satisfactory. Mr. Connal proposed "That the Treasurer be empowered to pay the expenses of Mr. Elliott and Mr. Richardson, amounting to a guinea, but that the actual grant to the Northern Universities' R.F.C. be deferred until an exact account be made." This was seconded by Mr. Ellis, and carried.

The eighth meeting of the Committee was held on Thursday, 21st January, 1904.

An account of £2 18s. 20d. was presented by the Skipton R.F.C. for compensation for loss due to cancelling of a fixture in Season 1903-4. It was agreed that this should be paid. The Colours Scheme, submitted by the Colours Sub-Committee was then dealt with in sections, all of which were passed unanimously.

The General Meeting was fixed for Friday, 5th February.

Chamberlain Night.

WHEN it became definitely known that the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain was going to address a meeting in Leeds, the natural result followed; we held a mass meeting. Amid scenes of enthusiasm Mr. Ward, the Member for the Division, was voted to the chair, and in eloquent tones dwelt on the necessity of seizing the opportunity for demonstrating to the outside world our appreciation of the Right Hon. Gentleman's services to the Country and the Empire. A proposal to organise a torch-light procession was carried unanimously, and a committee was formed to arrange it, embracing every shade of political opinion, men of brains and intellect, without even a Member in the chair, to whose indomitable zeal and energy the success of the great night was in no small measure due.

"No Politics—Honour the Man."—Such was our watchword that night, and what better one could have been found? It was indeed a happy inspiration and flashed throughout the length and breadth of the country like some mighty trumpet call, the London press taking it up and re-echoing it. But to come to the great night itself; when the time for assembly came, a goodly crowd of students was found upon the Grammar School grounds (kindly lent for the occasion). It was about 7.30 p.m., and punctually at that time, the procession, which by this time had increased to about 400 strong, stepped out at a brisk pace, its marshal leading the crowd off in front, en route for the Medical School, where we hoped to pick up a second contingent. To the inspiring strains of "Clementine" we marched down College Road, and, followed by an admiring crowd, soon reached the Medical School, *vis* Cavendish Road and Toulidge Street. Here, however, bad news awaited us; the surging crowd had washed away the Medicals, and only a few had survived to tell the piteous tale. Nothing daunted, however, we pressed on, each man resolved to remedy the deficit by increased exertion on his part.

On our arrival at the Town Hall we found that we were a little before our time, as "Good Old Joe" had not yet arrived from the Coliseum. We had not long to wait, however, and upon his entering the Town Hall, the task of dividing the procession into two parts, fore and aft the great man's carriage, began. With the thousands that surged round that mighty building, this was no easy task and had been well-nigh impossible had we not had the co-operation of Major Tarry, and his admirable force. Cries of "College keep your ranks!" "Keep the crowd out!" rang out into the night. What a glorious fight it was! How we pushed, scurried, shoved, and "fairly barged." Inch by inch we fought our way until at last, by a mighty effort, we cut a passage through the surging mass, and took up our stand waiting for the word to march. During the ensuing interval we were kept busy, as the crowd had begun to assume quite an affectionate disposition towards us, too much so in many instances. At last, a mighty roar went up to heaven as Joseph Chamberlain—Missioner of Empire—Man with the Eyeglass — appeared in sight. Ye Gods! What a spectacle! Thousands cheering, hats,

handkerchiefs, umbrellas waving, torches flaking the night with flame and flaring forth heavenward into the black and overcast sky; truly a scene never to be forgotten by anyone who witnessed it. By way of Park Lane, Guildford Street, and New Brigate towards Harehills Lane, the route everywhere lined with vast crowds that seemed to own a myriad throats, forward we went to the strains of "Rule Britannia" and "Clementine," to say nothing of bugle marches and bassoon solos. At last a halt was called and we pressed round to see the great man, to hear him speak, every man of us fighting night and main to get nearer to him, each one for himself.

How we cheered as he rose from his seat to address us! What a speech! Short, far too short! but to the point—"Gentlemen," these were his words, "the two great meetings that we have already had to-night, have left me little voice to address you (*cheers*), but I should not like to part with you to-night without telling you how much we appreciate the generosity of your welcome (*cheers*). I am not altogether unacquainted with a Yorkshire welcome, but this is one which you can never have surpassed (*exceeding silent cheers*). I speak to you not as a Politician, but as a Chancellor of a great University, and I wish you all the success that I hope for my own (*weak cheering*). I do not know if you have yet decided on which side in Politics your influence will be cast, (*cries of 'we are with you'*) for the future of our country lies with you, and such as you. But whatever your decision, let me remind you that your first duty is to the country that bore you, and to the Empire of which you are a part."

A crack of the whip and the vision was no more, he had gone, and all was over; we were left to retrace our steps, and—but of what happened afterwards it is not for me to tell. It was a glorious night and ne'er to be forgotten; destined to hold a prominent place in the Annals of the Yorkshire College.

College Ceremonies.

(A Reply to "A Reply.")

I HAVE read with pleasure the article of "A Humble Student" on this topic in the last *Gryphon*. The question is one for the students rather than for the staff, and the College would be much benefited by a clear expression of opinion from them. "A Humble Student's" article is a valuable contribution towards that end.

But there are certain points on which I should like to make some further comment. First, the question of the "Reception of Associates" will not, if I am rightly informed, arise in the new University. There will, for the future, be no Associates of the College; as the College is merged in the University all will be graduates, and very possibly the degree will be given retrospectively to all past Associates.

As for the annual address it is very easy to say, "Let us have some prominent man to address us." But how will you catch your prominent man? What kind of salt would "A Humble Student" recommend for his tail? The prominent man fights

very shy of such ceremonies; and unless the character of the meeting can be entirely changed I do not see much prospect of his showing greater eagerness to address the students. At first, at any rate, we must be satisfied with a somewhat moderate degree of prominence. It seems, too, that "A Humble Student" looks forward to two annual addresses—one in the nature of a Rectorial Address from "a prominent man," another in answer to a vote of thanks after the distribution of prizes by "some eminent man." This is the optimism of inexperience.

On only one point do I find myself out of sympathy with the writer of the article. The "Rectorial" address is to be "on some great commercial topic of the day," because "a vast percentage of us are destined to enter a manufacturer's career." I do not believe that the last statement is true (I wish it were). I am sure that any address to the whole body of students, if it is to be of use to any but a small section of them, must be directed to some topic of general national or social or ethical importance, and I hope it may rise above the mere question of how we may add to our incomes—a question to which we all perhaps devote sufficient attention. The most modern University, with all its apparatus of technical and professional education, must treat of these things in a liberal spirit and consider something more than the pecuniary advancement of the individual if it is to be worthy of its name and place in the National life.

A. J. G.

Short Reminiscences.

It was a great ship, and a dirty one too, that lay alongside the docks; the night was dark and murky; overhead enormous packages were swinging in mid-air as the process of loading continued, and every now and then a gruff voice was heard calling out directions.

A cab halted a little way off, and a merry laugh very similar indeed to one well known at the College, rang out into the darkness. The beginning was very like the commencement of a novel, but the continuation was not. Across the foot bridge the maiden tripped, but soon came to a sudden stop, for a great hole gaped before her. A pleasant manly voice, ascending from the depths, was heard to say invitingly, "Do jump, you will be all right, I shall catch you." The girl did jump and was received into the arms and most loving embrace of—, a nasty, horrid, dirty engine stoker. The merry laugh was silenced.

Next morning the sea was somewhat unruly, people walked disconsolately up and down deck, or lay in heaps in any corner into which they had been tossed. Our heroine, carefully keeping one eye in the direction of the afore-mentioned stoker, let the other wander round the groups. One passenger, feeling exceedingly bad, had come up to die in the open, and had mistaken a poor helpless female for a cushion. Later on the steward came past. "That looks better Missis," he said, "but his pair husband's if a bad way." The

lady rose indignantly, and the poor fellow's head gave a decided crack as it came in contact with the boards.

Arrived in Hamburg it was quite easy for the fair undergraduate to find her way about and make herself understood, for there, everyone has a smattering of English, and is only too delighted to shew you so. On entering a shop with the intention of buying some sausage, she called out at the top of her voice, thinking in that way to be more easily understood, "Sausage, ja, ja, Sausage," trying hard to imitate Mary at the Refec. when she is communicating with the kitchen. The shop girl stared a minute, and then exclaimed, "Oh—Mees sees English, comes she vrom London?"

Later on the English "Mees" wended her way to the Zoo, to see Anton, the famous elephant, who, moreover, was able to understand any modern language. Being greeted with "Good day, dear Antony, how'd'ye do," and at the same time presented with a half-penny, he gave a great chuckle—which sounded like thunder—and his reply, if translated, would have certainly been "Ha, ha, my child, I see you come from London." The keeper, hearing Anton's hearty laugh, brought forward a huge parcel, containing turnips and vegetable marrow, which he gave to the damsel, receiving as payment the elephant's half-penny.

Anton opened his mouth wide in eager anticipation, the girl made a great effort, and on hearing an impatient grunt from Anton, hurled a chunk with all her might and main at the animal's tonsils; being a girl, of course, she missed the elephant.

During her sojourn in Hamburg "leetle English Mees" found plenty of occupation and enjoyment in watching and wondering at the queer customs of her German friends. Men of a lazy disposition she found needed to do nothing for themselves. In the evening they had only to press a little finger on wishing to rise, and an attendant would come in and jussament them until they were just done to a turn. He would then leave them in the hands of other attendants, whose duty it was to clean their nails and do their hair, etc. The last stroke was the summing-up of their wives to tie their boot strings, and put the finishing touches.

But of all the delightful times "Mees" spent in the Fatherland, the most delightful were those sweet dreamy evenings in the beer gardens, when, to the accompaniment of peaceful strains, she partook of lager beer and samsierack and let her thoughts wander back to dear old England, and to — Buttons.

Our heroine came back to England with many new plans and impressions; firstly, the introduction of German sausage into England as the only sure means of altering the constitution of the Kingdom; secondly, that the Germans in general, have no distinct appreciation for anything English that doesn't come from London; thirdly, that they fight shy of everything marked "Made in Germany," and send it over here to get rid of it; fourthly, that the German Jews, that most despised race, are the dearest people in the world, despite their noses and multiple hats; and lastly, that English students are wise to keep to harmless ball games and single sticks

instead of playing with swords and daggers, though if they wish to gain the tender sympathies of the fair sex all they need do is to bandage up their heads and cover their faces with sticking plaster.

The German friends of "Mees" are still disconsolate, but occasionally forget their woe for the time being by joining in the lusty choros "For she is a jolly good fellow," to a brass band accompaniment.

SCENE.

(Anyone desirous of knowing the identity of "Banton," will receive full particulars on applying to the Sub-Editor.)

Students' Representation.

SOME apology is perhaps necessary for reopening a question which has been discussed and disposed of by the Debating Society. The best apology lies in the question itself. As the question appeared in the resolution which was rejected by the majority in the debate, it seemed that the personal element was being introduced. The personal element is by no means conducive to good debating, and it seems that the one matter of importance—Students' Representation—was not fully considered. Further the question is not one that can be adequately treated and disposed of in one short debate. So it has been suggested to open a discussion on the subject in the columns of the *Gryphon*.

It has occurred to some students that the members of the Students' Union Committee do not represent the opinions, and are not the elect of the whole body of students, or rather of the majority of the students.

The people who hold this belief think that the method of election is to blame for this state of things. Their contention is, to put it briefly, that however suitable a man may be for the Committee, he has no chance of election unless he has either a large circle of friends, or is a member of a large department. But to blame the method of election is surely wrong; the largest department is considerably overweighed by the rest of the College, and if the members of a department voted blindly for a man, he be good or bad, simply because he was one of their own department, the rest of the College could in spite of this put in a better man, if each student did his duty. Every student has a vote for 13 candidates; if each student did his duty to himself, and to the Union, he would use his right to vote at every election. In that case the Committee would really and truly represent the students as a whole. But the whole body of students does not use the right of voting. In this case the elected members represent the majority of those who voted. Those who would not take the trouble to vote must be satisfied with that election, and with the members chosen, since the natural inference is that as they do not vote they do not care who is elected. There seems to be little cause for grievance here.

But supposing that the system of perfect freedom of election is a wrong one, what is the alternative? The students who are aggrieved have suggested no better system, either with regard to principle or to practicability. If the present system of election had

to go by the board, some scheme of divisional election would have to be devised. How are the divisions to be made? The natural division is the department. To have a division into bodies numerically equal is impracticable. Yet arrangements would have to be made so that one student's vote carried as much weight as another's. So if the departmental division were formed, the department commanding the smallest number of votes would have to form the unit, and elect one member. But the relation of the largest department to the smallest department, the speaking of numbers, presents a great difficulty. For example, there is one department with about 20 or 22 electors in it; there is another with over 200 electors in it. Clearly to be fair, the latter department ought to have 9 or 10 times as many representatives. But then the Union Committee would be far too large to do any good. Even were the smaller departments to be joined into one constituency there would be a great difficulty. If there is departmental feeling now, there is no reason to suppose that joining two or three departments together would dissipate that feeling. So the largest of these small departments would gain a representative, leaving the other portions of the constituency unrepresented.

The great aim in forming a Students' Union was to obtain social unity in the College; to make the student feel that the department is a merely artificial separation, and that apart from actual studies the students are members of one great class—the student class. To keep up the necessary, yet artificial separation in studies, in the social life of the College, is a thing to be avoided. Yet if the present method of election is replaced by a departmental method, that separation or barrier is kept up and fostered by the very body which has social unity as its aim. This is surely the height of inconsistency.

It is not out of place here to remind the "reformers" that little grievances over which one can ponder and growl, are really part of the pleasures of life. Were the College a modern Utopia, on its social side, it would be a very dull place for the student. Having no little grievances to air, feeling always a sleepy satisfaction, would make Common Room life so dull that lectures would be welcomed as the only relaxation in life. Yet they seek to sweep away at one fell swoop all the little ills of student life, by changing the present method of election to one which will secure such members that no one will have the right to be aggrieved, and such members that none of the little untoward events or mistakes of present times, will take place; but all will go on in perfect smoothness, without jar or rub, and at the same time without attraction or charm.

D.

The Conversazione.

I MAKE no apology for bringing before members of the Union a matter of such importance as their Annual Conversazione. My justification is that an appeal of this kind ought not to be necessary. Most students will be already aware of the nature of the entertainment which is to be provided on February

19th, and the remarks which I have to make will be of a general and hortatory character.

In the first place, the *Conversazione* is the most important Union function of the year. In fact, with the exception of the sports, it is the only function of the year. Our smokers, musical evenings, etc., are more or less private affairs; student meets student and staff meets student. The *Conversazione* is a public function of some importance, even in the City of Leeds. It is the event by which the estimation of the College and of the Union stands high or low in the social circle of the City. This may appear an exaggeration, but I do not think that it is so. But if there is one thing more certain than anything else it is that our new University will be mainly dependent on the citizens of Leeds for its future development. Therefore the sooner we put ourselves right with the people of Leeds, the better. The *Conversazione* is just one of those little attentions which a college can pay to the community with great and handsome returns to itself. If so, then the duty of the student is obvious. It is all the more incumbent on him to support the *Conversazione* by every means in his power. The least a student can do is to come himself. He can do more by bringing his friends, selling tickets, or helping in the preparations. I do not think I am pitching too high in this view of the *Conversazione*, but if I am, I will immediately return to earth and appeal to the value for money instinct.

There is every prospect of an enjoyable entertainment. "The play's the thing," and no one will regret making the acquaintance of "Our Boys." It is a most laughable comedy, popular with the last generation, but scarcely known to the rising age. I believe I am right in stating that it shares with "Charley's Aunt" the record for the longest run of the modern stage. The company consists entirely of students, and is an exceptionally good one. I hear that the rehearsals are going strongly, so that we may anticipate a rollicking time on the night of the *Conversazione*.

In addition to the play the Engineering, Physical, and Chemical Departments will give interesting and attractive exhibitions, and there will be a Gymnastic Display in the Gymnasium.

There is some doubt among students as to the question of dress. Evening dress is not compulsory, and no student will feel "out of it" in the slightest in morning attire.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Leeds (Mr. and Mrs. A. Currer Briggs), will grace the proceedings with their presence, and we hope that they will only be the leaders of a brilliant company.

The success or failure of the *Conversazione* depends entirely on the students of the College. It is a function which can only be conducted at a great outlay and with great labour, and I would ask all students to back up the strenuous efforts which are being put forward by the Committee to make the *Conversazione* a great success.

W. H. DAVES.

Impressions on being present at a Xmas Dance for the first time.

If any of the readers of the *Gryphon* have, by any mischance, never been present at such an amusing and enjoyable function as an Xmas Dance, I should like—seeing that the commodity is so cheap nowadays—to advise them to go on the first opportunity. Many things, we are told, are "educations" in themselves; this experience is assuredly of such a nature. If you do not yourself—

"Trip it as you go,
On the light fantastic toe,"

so much the better, you have more opportunities of observation. You see there mankind and woman-kind in a "new" light, indeed, the things that are done, the words that are spoken, the gestures and grimaces, the smiles and the frowns, the dress and the "undress"—all these things pass human belief, seeing and hearing are essential to the comprehension of these weighty matters. Really! you have no idea of the extent of human capabilities, you know not all that a man can do until you have seen and heard him at a "Xmas Dance." Let me unfold to you some of these mysterious phenomena.

You are, of course, invited, you "accept," and—you go—either on "shank's pony" or otherwise. On your arrival you are presented with a most minute and elaborately embossed and decorated piece of cardboard, which is, you observe, a "PROGRAMME," and you wonder what might be the use thereof—but you proceed further in your investigations, to be unceremoniously accosted by a military man at the door of the festival hall, who, in stentorian tones demands "your name!" You make mental comment as to his rudeness and audacity, but in an icy, haughty tone, you do condescend to tell him your honorable name, after repeating which three times, the "military" seems tolerably well satisfied. He proceeds to open the folding doors, and, ushering you into a brilliantly lighted room, "cries" out in "basso profundo," an apology for any name but yours. In your most awkward amble, making as much noise as ever you can, you find a chair—and you sit down, relieved. You cannot dance, you are heartily thankful for your ignorance; you, therefore, as soon as you are collected enough, observe.

How very polite all the ladies and gentlemen are! They bow to each other, as far as you can tell, every three minutes; they stand in groups of eight; two or three of them dance just when the spirit moves them; they never quarrel about it, the rest are quite pleased to stand round, whilst one couple dance for their education in the inner circle. The piano is hammered, the violin screeches, and everybody feels as though he were just where he ought to be—except, of course, yourself. At this moment, you think of that ornamental piece of cardboard, and thinking that perhaps "Programme" will enlighten you as to the object these people have in view, and what the bowing and strutting, the grinning and talking might be supposed to mean. You see written upon your Programme—"Lancers"—ominous and significant word. Immediately your thoughts are

carried to the military man at the door; what his function is however, you are at a loss to explain; he seems to have disappeared. There are no other men appared like him, they all are quite proper and conventional, outwardly at any rate. "Lances" seem to be far from their thoughts or hands, you can make nothing of it. You think deeply about the matter, however, for you feel that it is a subtle one, but at length, dull as you are, light dawns, you come to the conclusion that "dancing" must be a form of "fighting." The profound bow, and "May I have the pleasure?" is the gentleman's challenge; the lady, disentangling her flimsy wrappings, throws down the gauntlet; her sleeves are rolled above the elbows, as washerwomen's are when they fight with the soap-suds in the wash tub. *En bref*, her appearance is formidable and terrifying in the extreme. *He*, nothing daunted, leads *her* into the middle of the room and the "fight" begins. *He* pulls *her* most unmercifully, in a manner most ungentlemanly, round and round the room; their heads are often in such close collision, you wonder whether they'll be broken before the end; you wonder still more, who'll be the winner. At last, dishevelled but tolerably whole, *she* is lead, breathless, fluttering, panting, back to her seat. *She* seems not much damaged, *she* looks very cross and red, *he* seems exasperated also, but *he* says "thank you;" and bows politely—they are always so, in the thick of the fight they stop for the periodical s-m-i-l-e-s and bows—then *he* goes away, and to your innate disgust, fights someone else as unconcerned as to the poor baffled creature *he* has left, as the polished floor beneath him.

Thus they proceed, the tumult without are no less than the tumults within, judging from quivering lips and trembling hands. You wonder how long it will take to repair damages, some of the wounds sustained are deep and foul. What will it cost you think to "dress" her up again as she was at the beginning of that night? What will it cost to set her once more on "terra firma"? She has "fought" until her heart is gone, her feet are she knows not where. She reels around the room, dragged along by her opponent, it is delicious bliss she thinks, she knows not whether she is on earth or in heaven, but you, wise woman, you know of course!

It would be impossible to tell the various stratagems and wiles indulged in by the ladies, in order to challenge the gentlemen, or the challenge being accepted of the various "modes de combat." They chase one another, run along side of each other, twist round the hand of the other, attack other pairs of fighters, dance round them, run into them, take hold of their hands, creep under an archway of hands, all in perfect order, with constant bowings, never forgotten. On one occasion, to create a diversion, and relieve the monotony you suppose, eight of them with clasped hands fell to the floor, dying heavenly together. They came to life again in a minute or two, and went on as before. You try to calculate the amount of loss of feathers and ribbons, but the task is beyond you, the height, length, and the breadth thereof you cannot encompass, you "give it up," wearied of the incessant struggles you go

home, "a sadder and a wiser man," to rise the morrow morn.

Opening Dickens' "Christmas Carol," at "Fezziwig's Ball," you see that there are "the three Miss Fezziwigs," and the "six young followers, whose hearts they broke," and that the guests, "advance and retire, bow and curtsy, cork-screw, thread the needle, and back again to your place," but yet there is a difference you feel in this twentieth century dance. Hearts are not only broken, they are mangled, quartered, burned, and flayed alive! "Fezziwig's" guests are "not to be trifled with," those you have seen, "trifle" from beginning to end in some form or other. The "M.C." you saw to-night could not say "Hilli-ho, Dick! Chirrup, Ebenezer!"

Dear me! No! a thousand times no! His voice was not strong and determined enough, his weapons too subtle and sharp and sturlil. And the peaceful sleep of the "two 'prentice lads" under a counter in the back shop, "where is it now? Gone! drowned in courtesies and smiles, which shine on the surface of the form of man, and leave him, blank, barren, wounded, miserable, miserable!"

*"For every story under the sun
There is a moral, or those is none;
If there is one, try and find it!
If there isn't, never mind it!"*

HERRA.

The College Charivari.

Two frogs were leaning o'er a pail
Half full of milk;
Their seat alas! it was too frail,
They joined the milk.
Their brows were pale with clotted cream
As on they swam;
Whiter their faces it would seem
Than Mary's lamb.
Frog number one began to weep,
His heart was full;
He sank into a last deep sleep,
And sank himself.
Frog number two ne'er stopped to pause,
Though eyes were dimming;
He couldn't help but swim because
His head was swimming.
Poor froggy, he swam on and on,
Without a mutter;
He swam until he stood upon
A pat of butter.

OLIVER JIGGER.

It is not true!—That a prominent member of the staff has been seen at the Troll, apparently engrossed in the hand selections.

That the same gentleman went to a fancy dress ball disguised as a gopher.

That our highly respected Union Secretary swallowed a torch on Chamberlain night.

That in doing so he suffered terrible torture.

That Euclid ever mentioned the Fr Circle.

Yours sincerely,

OLIVER JIGGER.

Queries.

Where did you get your leading way,
Oh! Our M.P.?
To lead us, with your torch alight,
On Chamberlain or Panto, night,
Or on the field of Fiscal fight?
Oh! Our M.P.!

How do you choose your Rugby team,
Oh! H. McL.?
'Tis not for worth but wealth's display
That men are chosen now to play.
Said Mr. F. the other day,
Oh! H. McL.!

How do you play that big trombone,
Oh! Welsh P. D.?
You roused our blood, you stirred our heart,
And right well did you play your part,
And your trombone, And with what art!
Oh! Welsh P. D.!

Where did you get your gentle voice,
Oh! H. M. B.?
Such dulcet tones should woo a maid,
Not be split for Free Trade,
Or tell how dynamite is made,
Oh! H. M. B.!

Whence comes that sweet seraphic smile,
Oh! F. A. B.?
Does St. Cecilia grant it to
Her votaries; and so to you
For music's sake it did accrue?
Oh! F. A. B.!

Whence comes that manly voice so strong,
Oh! R. H. D.?
The voice that makes the engines knock
The steam 'scape from the blow-off cock,
And water pipes to burst with shock!
Oh! R. H. D.!

QUERIES.

Chess Club.

The result of the tournament in connection with this Club up to January 23rd is as follows:—

SECTION I.					
	Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.	Points.
A. Smiles ..	8	6	1	1	13
F. B. Fisher ..	8	5	0	3	10
G. A. Watson ..	6	2	2	2	6
H. Landon ..	6	2	1	3	5
J. Lidletter ..	4	2	0	2	4
A. P. Durrant ..	4	2	0	2	4
F. Horn ..	6	0	0	6	0
SECTION II.					
R. A. Christie ..	12	10	0	2	20
S. E. Pickersgill ..	12	8	0	4	16
T. Tomlinson ..	12	7	0	5	14
D. O. Earnshaw ..	12	6	0	6	12
H. S. Knowles ..	12	5	0	7	10
G. Frank ..	12	4	0	8	8
T. Wallis ..	12	2	0	10	4

The sections were chosen by lot.

The first three in each section will finally play off to decide the winner.

R. A. CHRISTIE, Hon. Sec.

Records for Posterity.

THE PANTOMIME.

A SHORT time since a learned gentleman was endeavouring to describe to a select audience the exact condition of the theatre as it existed in the time of Shakespeare. I believe that the lecture was very erudite and interesting, that it had involved a great deal of arduous research, and that such questions as to whether the stage had a curtain were dealt with in a masterly manner. Reflecting upon all this I was led to wonder whether four hundred years hence the future antiquary would be in the same difficulty in discovering the exact condition of the theatre as it exists in the time of—shall I say—Alfred Austin or Henry Arthur Jones. Truly we live in an age of the making of books, and it might seem at first as if there never could be any difficulty for the future historian in discovering and describing the exact condition of every human institution existing at the beginning of the twentieth century. I am by no means sure, however, that this first impression is correct. I have wondered, for example, if our future historian will be able to lay his hands on an exact description of a pantomime as it exists to-day. Is there an exact description of a pantomime anywhere in print? I do not know of any. It is possible, no doubt, that the *libretti* of pantomimes come under that elastic definition of literature which would compel their authors to deposit a copy of each in the Library of the British Museum; but who could describe a pantomime from a book of words, or from a newspaper critique, or from anything but a mass of almost undiscoverable circumstantial evidence?

I venture to think that the human race will always preserve its fondness for looking back to see what manner of men their forefathers were and what things they lived among for sorrow or joy, just as we do to-day. We turn back to definite periods, to a particular century, a particular life, or a particular epoch-making event and try to reconstruct the men and women, the manners and customs of the particular time. Now I cannot help thinking that the present period will mark one of those red letter times to which our descendants will look back. There are many things to support this view, but I will say no more than that this is the time in which great Universities are being established.

I believe that copies of the *Gryphon* are deposited in the College Library, where I hope they are bound, and where I hope they may eventually find shelf accommodation of due dignity. I do not suppose that for some time to come the early volumes will be much resorted to, but I am quite certain that four hundred years hence nothing in our Library will be of more interest than the volumes which reflect the life of the then ancient University in the first years of its existence. These considerations have led me to the view that it might be a real service to posterity if the *Gryphon* took upon itself as one of its duties to describe accurately and impartially some of our existing institutions, especially those relating to the social life of the student community, and I am not sure that such a custom would be without value to the present generation. I am going to give a

clearer indication of what I mean, and then I will leave the subject for more competent hands.

A notice which has recently appeared in the corridors proclaims the advent of the institution called "Panto, night." Now what is Panto, night? Let us try to answer this question for our descendants fairly and impartially, and give them an accurate description of one of the ways in which we amuse ourselves.

Panto, is a contraction for pantomime. Contractions are much in fashion at this time, more perhaps to indicate a kind of knowledge than for any real economy of speech. "Cig." for example, is common for cigarette, especially among youths who smoke prematurely. The pantomime is a very old institution, whose development is learnedly recorded in the encyclopedias, and therefore need not be described here. The old meaning of pantomime—acting by dumb show, still lingers faintly round the word, but pantomime now-a-days passes insensibly into many other forms of stage entertainment, having strong affinities with the music hall, the circus, and the comic opera. The pantomime has changed much in a generation. Thirty years ago it was primarily an entertainment for children produced for the Christmas holidays, and having a comparatively short run. It was divided sharply into two parts. The first part was an acted fairy or nursery tale with a clear story in it, with a good deal of sentiment and a fair proportion of such fun as children most love. There was a good fairy and a demon, light music, songs and dances, a good deal of scenic elaboration and stage effects. The first part of the pantomime culminated in a sort of apotheosis of the hero or heroine in a "transformation scene," an elaborate tableau of a fantastic and brilliantly illuminated kind gradually built up by moving pieces, representing shells, flowers, butterflies, etc., adorned with stationary figures. The second part or Harlequinade, very interesting in its historical development, was given up to boisterous fun conducted by a clown with the assistance of a pantaloon, who represented decrepit old age and acted as a butt for the pranks of the clown. A supernatural element was represented by the harlequin whose wand, by its touch, was capable of bringing about various grotesque transformations. Feminine grace and beauty were represented by the columbine. The harlequinade was almost entirely true pantomime or dumbshow, and was accompanied by the incessant strains of what for want of the proper Italian term I must call jiggy music. This part of a pantomime for many years was to the British child the culminating point of all amusement.

To-day the pantomime is no longer primarily a children's entertainment, but aims at gratifying their elders. The spectacular element is preserved, there remains a good deal of knock-about fun and there are aerobic and other elements which still leave something for the children. But essentially the modern pantomime is contrived for the modern young man, and so successfully contrived that its run may extend for nearly a quarter of the year. The harlequinade is practically abolished and the other part is no longer an intelligible story, though it is usually threaded on one of the old staples. What shall we say the modern

pantomime is? What are its essentials? First, we must have a few broad comedians. Of these one, usually the chief, assumes the part of a woman, usually a widow, usually bibulous and able to sing topical songs, that is to say, doggerel verses making fun of national and local events and people. Associated with this character are two or three male ones, whose humour is based largely on the misfortunes and foibles of the widow, especially upon her lack of personal charms. The fun of a pantomime usually depends on the arduous efforts of this nucleus, and the members are expected to add fresh elements to their parts by the constant introduction of extempore humour, called gag, or of extempore gag, called humour.

Side by side with the humorous developments of the broad comedians there proceeds the outline of a love story between two other chief characters, one called the principal boy and the other the principal girl. For both these parts it is usual to secure the most comely young women who can be induced to play them and who have the required standard of ability in singing and dancing. A high degree of vivacity is also essential, but humour is of inconsiderable importance. These protagonists have corresponding subordinates.

When the pantomime begins these two strains of performers are gradually amalgamated, and the thing proceeds for three hours as a series of more or less inconsequent scenes, in which each of the chief performers has his or her turn of display in dialogue, song, or dance. The melody is interrupted at intervals by ballets, processions and assemblies, partly for spectacular and partly for choral purposes. The music is usually entirely borrowed, and relies chiefly on the popular songs of the music halls. This description may cease when I have added that no pantomime is complete without its catch-word or catch-phrase. It is the duty of one of the comedians to utter at frequent intervals some such phrase as "it's all right up to now," "let's have another and then." The phrase is received with ever-increasing laughter, and rapidly passes into current public use.

And what do we think of all this? Well, I have said that a pantomime may run for three months. It is the most paying thing of the year. It represents the average dramatic taste at the beginning of the twentieth century.

It is true that some people carp at pantomimes. It is said that they are vulgar, that they do not serve greatly to elevate the public mind or morals. It is objected that a great deal of the fun turns upon the humours of intoxication, that a great deal else is indelicate. Young men are asked if they care very much to take their sisters to the pantomime, whether they would greatly care to have their sisters cast for one of the principals or supernumeraries.

To these objections I can only urge that whatever question may be raised as to the taste of the masses, it could hardly be credited that if the pantomime were what its detractors say it is, the students of a University, the selected intellect of the rising generation, the young men of all others who may be supposed to have ideals, would make the pantomime the one occasion of the year when they give something like

official patronage to the theatre. For "Panto, night" is the occasion when a large number of the students of the College go in procession to support and encourage the performance which, in the preceding paragraphs, I have attempted, very imperfectly I fear, to describe for posterity.

SPECTATOR.

De Rebus Medicabilibus.

THE Gryphon crows with delight to hear that Mr. W. H. Brown is at last well, and will be with us again in a few days. We are pained to think that but for his devotion to us in presiding over our November Smoker when already feeling seedy, his illness might have been less severe and less protracted. We shall be all the more glad therefore to be assured, in the flesh, of his perfect recovery.

Early in the New Year, Mr. Foevith vacated his post at the Infirmary to study Pathology in Germany. He is, and will be, much missed, and has carried with him the good wishes of all. Unfortunately we have not been able to secure for our readers the verse of the Christmas song dealing with his departure, but we hope to have the pleasure of publishing something from his pen before long. He is succeeded as Pathologist by Mr. O. C. Gruner.

Mr. Crump is to be congratulated on his qualification and house appointment. Mr. Matthews has the honour of being the first to be granted the new post of Ophthalmic House Surgeon.

We hear that Mr. F. Sugden, M.B., Ch.B., has recently been married; he, too, has our heartiest congratulations and good wishes.

In December, Mr. W. B. Hill unfortunately found it necessary to resign his office as Assistant Secretary of the S.R.C. and Hon. Sec. of the Medical Society. Mr. G. W. Thomas was elected his substitute. Mr. Hill remaining on the Committee of the Medical Society.

Great excitement prevailed in the Common Room a few days before the Chamberlain Meeting, when the two tickets the College spared us out of the six they had sent were balloted for. Mr. Macvean and Mr. Arnott were the lucky individuals. They resisted, we believe, the strong temptation to make their fortunes.

Nothing will induce us to tell

- The secret of Mr. J. A. Longley's astonishing predilection for drains.
- Who put unnecessary aspirates into the Christmas Carols.
- Who are said to be involved in the sequelæ of Christmas.
- Who preferred him clean-shaven, and why.
- Who was "common-deared in every ward in the place" for decorations.
- What Honorary it was who, on being asked how many tickets he would want for the

dinner, replied "How many dinners do you think I can eat?"

- Who introduced Gastro-enterostomy for uræmic vomiting.
- Who would win the prize for the greatest number of sponserian varieties possible in saying "Pott's Puffy Tumour."
- Who advocated Tracheotomies all round 18 and 19 at 4.5 p.m. on a Tuesday.
- Who is the pessimist at Outpatients who is responsible for the following parody "Lie upon lie, precept upon precept; hear a lot and believe a little."
- Just at present—who is to be appointed War Correspondent to the *Gryphon*.

Our congratulations to all the following on their successes:—

M.D., London.—G. Watson.
R. H. Beale.

Conjoint Board.

Medicine.—S. T. Crump (now qualified).

Surgery.—R. O. Handcock.

Midwifery.—R. Appleton, L.S.A., M.B., Ch.B.Vic. (now qualified Conjt.).

H. Archer.

H. Leach.

Anatomy and Physiology.—G. Heyrovec.

Society of Apothecaries.

Midwifery.—H. Archer.

Cambridge Inter.

Anatomy and Physiology.—G. F. Greenwood

The Medical Dinner.

"Look here, you have to write me an account of the dinner." "Which dinner? Bacon's or the School Dinner?" "The School Dinner, of course, you owl, do you think we want to know how the kidscratchers feasted and made merry?" "Thus spake the editor to the scribe, and this is the result. When one is sitting in one's digs, snoozing over an Ode, one finds considerable difficulty in recalling to one's memory one's concrete ideas on a dinner one attended one month ago. Here I sit in a bad temper, with a menu before me, wondering what did really happen, not that I had been amblyopic for a short time; but one "sees through a glass darkly" after such an interval."

The dinner! Visions rise up before me of Dr. Griffith, in love with the whole world—an ideal Chairman, but just a little, only a little, mind you, too serious for the occasion—of Medicine and Surgery cracking jokes and bottles with the Lord Mayor, who wanted to make public those grand old games of poker they used to have at the Fever Hospital—what?

Sounds even now echo in my ears of the "hired ruffian" who like the jester in "The Yeomen of the Guard," was paid to be funny—of that marvellous feast of eloquence which was served up with the cigars, oratory the like of which has not been heard at the dinner for years. It is almost out of place here to congratulate the speakers, but one must refer to the pleasant, pertinent, personal speech of Mr. Veale, sen., and the really brilliant, bubbling and

cheery outburst of our *débutant*, Mr. Sedgwick, who absolutely astounded every one, the said S. hailing from Shipley.

What else—Mr. Ward's treetotal dresses; the disappointed six; Billy Hayes amongst the staff; the speech that Thomas tried to make; the hard-worked Secretaries, Messrs. Veale and Bradshaw; the excellent catering; the soberest dinner for years. What do you think of it all?

Infirmary Mottoes.

By an Old Student.

Patients :

Of all good gifts ever hath been health
Counted the first, and loss of it to be
The hardest thing to bear.

Ugo Bassi.

Consulting Staff :

... with wisdom fraught
Not such as books, but such as practice taught.

Waller.

Physicians :

If thou could'st, Doctor . . . find her disease
And purge it to a sound and pristine health,
I would applaud thee to the very echo
That should applaud again.

Macbeth.

Surgeons :

... Diseases, desperate grown,
By desperate appliance are removed,
Or not at all.

Hamlet.

Students :

Knowledge is proud that he hath learnt so much ;
Wisdom is humble that he knows no more.

Copier.

Treasurer :

Oh that eternal want of pence
Which vexes public men !

Tennyson.

Subscribers :

The quality of mercy is not strained ;
... It is twice blest,
It blesseth him that gives and him that takes.

Merchant of Venice.

Chaplain :

More needs she the divine than the physician.

Macbeth.

Aesthetists :

The labour we delight in physics pain.
Shakespeare (adapted).

Nurses :

O woman, in our hours of ease
Uncertain, coy, and hard to please,
And variable as the shade
By the light quivering aspen made,
When pain and anguish wring the brow
A ministering angel thou !

Mernion.

R. O. O. :

The heights by great men reached and kept
Were not attained by sudden flight,
But they, while their companions slept,
Were toiling onward in the night.

Longfellow.

Causality Department :

Wherein I spake of most disastrous chances
Of moving accidents by flood and field.

Othello.

Out-Patient Waiting Hall.

Sat like Patience on a monument.

Tamara Night.

Ophthalmic Department :

But chief of all
O loss of sight, of three I most complain.

Samos Agonistes.

Isolation Block :

'Tis time to give them physic, their diseases
Are grown so catching.

Henry VIII.

Mortality :

Death hath a thousand doors to let out life.

Massinger.

The Medical Dance.

To sit down now, close to the end of January and write, in cold blood, an account of the Medical Dance seems to the writer a task not only difficult, but in its very nature heart-rending. To attempt to do so were to do violence to those vague, tender, haunting memories which still crowd around our every thought of that evening of motion and emotion. Who were there?—We know. How were they dressed?—Bathos! Who not there?—We never noticed. What was the supper like?—Good. Look here, won't you tell us anything about it?—We are aroused from our reverie. Yes, good questioner, since you were evidently unfortunate enough not to have been there, we will take pity on you and tell you—all about it?—No, only a very little, as our space is limited. It was the Third Annual Medical Ball, and was held in the Medical School on December 18th last. Hepper's decorated quickly but well. Klosterman's catered better than before—three suppers and buffet refreshments as usual—and Bartley's band from Yeck provided excellent music. Special features were the scarcity of "bad partners" and honories.

Our thanks are due to the Board for allowing us to use the School Buildings—which permission we hope they will never now withdraw—and we would also take this opportunity of expressing our warm appreciation of the hard work of the Ball Committee in trying to secure us the pleasantest hall yet held, and congratulating them on their signal success.

The Christmas Festivities.

THE L.G.I., as usual, made a very festive most of the most festive season of the year. As December reached his twenties, the air of studious intent on work, so universally characteristic of the wards, began to be less "aggressively obvious" and gradually gave way to a rustling feeling of anticipatory excitement and of incubating frivolity. Sisters began to smuggle evergreens into the ward squares. Povolov's poetry cooks were rung up and set bustling. Residents were to be seen stealing about with "mum" written upon their countenances, and large chafes bulging their tail pockets, and the most serious of students were to be heard making preliminary enquiries as to the whereabouts of the tallest steps. A few days, and what an active bustling scene the Infirmary has become! Look into any ward and see the would-be Uncle Podger in the shape of an athletic, alarmed-looking student standing on the topmost rungs of a 20 foot ladder, praying in heaven that the polish of the floor may not be too much for the three trusty friends standing at the bottom between him and an early grave, as he endeavours to attach the end of a heavy laurel festoon to the top of the corner window: whilst Sister shouts encouragement, advice, and criticism from the world far below. Similar scenes are to be met with in every ward; everywhere one is told by blatant lammers, by frivolous festoons, and by modest mistletoe that Christmas is at hand. The decoration of the hospital this year was a triumph both to the Nursing and the Resident Staff, with the assistance they received in the carrying out of their schemes from the energetic of the students. It would be invidious to make too many distinctions, but those wards which took the most trouble naturally received and were worthy of the most praise. The corner to corner evergreens were much admired, as was also the twisted ribbon scheme in 6. In an old lantern in 4 was to be seen the thing perhaps most suggestive of Xmas in the hospital; it was delightfully artistic and Christmassy. The greatest triumphs of all, however, were the pictures. Their excellence made one feel that each member of the resident staff had missed his vocation. The two greatest attractions were the magnificent Egyptian scroll in 6, done by an ex-resident, and its antithesis, the sisterly-residential cake walk in 8. This made one feel that the residents' entertainment, excellent as it was, lacked one item which should have been included. The comic picture in 5, the political fishers in 16, the lively widow in 14, and the many other artistic efforts presented an unusually high standard of humorous art. Who, for instance, would have guessed, when gazing on the magnificent proportions of the noble beast in 2, that it was the work of a composite hand?

The sisters' teas and coffees—we hear that Little Tich honoured one of them with his presence—were as jolly as ever, the hostesses as gracious, the nurses as sprightly, and the students as—*coarse* if I may. If the Nurses' entertainment was a great success, "Spotting" the performers was a difficult task, but identities escaped one by one, that of the manageress of the waxworks perhaps first: surely no one else could have got the same telling effect out of the

delicious beque she adopted. Little Jack Horner's stately roquishness, as he pulled out his plum, gave quite an animated start to the show; the old lady who afterwards appeared with her son at the Casualty Coffee—Mrs. Smuffle-Buffalo—was greatly admired for her grace and dignity; all lovers of Dickens wanted to embrace dear old Mr. Pickwick on the spot, had he not been so busy paying that very attention to the captivating Mrs. Bordell, and we wondered what the "Harlene" lady paid for her back-hair net. Dr. and Miss Forsyth's play was really excellent, and Dr. Forsyth's abilities as a lover and lady-killer made us envy him the schools at which he has gained his experience.

The Residents' entertainment on the following Tuesday was also a tremendous success. Messrs. Forsyth and Macvean repeated, by special request, the "Gendarmes' Duet," amidst thunderous applause. Here are the words of the topical verses, which will at once recall the music to all who have ever heard the song:—

Now this Infirmary is second
To none, there's not the slightest doubt,
But still, you've each one surely reckoned,
It can't be run so well as "St. Paul."
Has anyone got too much money?
If so just drop a line to us—
We'll run it in, we'll run it in,
We'll come for it with open arms.

Perhaps you've heard of surpassing sugar
To climb the dizzy heights of fare,
And lest their chances should be unequal
There's scarce a case they will not claim.
A patient needsy sighs—"stomach!"
There's only one thing left of course—
To run him in, to run him in,
And tell him they are the surgeons.

When supposition we're suspecting,
We hunt around all day for signs,
No single symptom we're neglecting,
We even count the blood secretions!
And then we call in the physician,
Who with a needle does the tick—
He runs it in, he runs it in,
To do so he has never qualms.

The University Victoria
We have just laid upon the shelf,
Soon every village will be glorying
That it's got one to itself.
And we wonder what will happen
When Sheffield, Leeds, and Paisley too—
Have run one in, have run one in,
For learning's cause it surely harms.

Now in examinations recent,
We have met with teach success,
And when I ask the last achievement,
Our E.M.O.'s, you'll quickly guess,
But still the fact is not surprising,
And in the future, like the past—
We'll run them in, we'll run them in,
And in them we will take all pains.

The inter-verse parade was irresistible in its humorous pomposity, and the song itself was written by a genius, and rendered as well. Dr. Forsyth charms us again in company with a Chinese retinue and a night nurse harem. Ah! how he was the envious of the envious as he dismissed them carelessly one by one! They all looked charming, and sang in a very dainty style. Once more Dr. Forsyth delighted us—this time with "I mean to introduce it into China," the topical verses of which shall speak for themselves. The gait

of his retinue as they entered and exited was a distinct feature of the entertainment.

We see the surgeons turn aside, to test the latest germicide,
To stop the wily microbes' least infection;
They've sterile clothes from top to toe—moustaches now have
had to go,
And even just to speak will bring correction!
But not content their hair to hide, when on the nurses fair
they've sped,
They'll order caps so ludicrous to mention!
Lest when they're on a mighty list, their doings may be
slightly misread.
And you should claim the gallery's attention.
There's no doubt it would impress,
To thus cover up such trends,
But I think it's cutting things a bit too fine . . . ah!
For quite soon they'll want to veil,
Every face from gaze of male,
You'd be better far in convales in China.

Chorus—And although we must confess,
That it would indeed impress,
Still it wouldn't give you quite a chance to shine, ah!
If they make you wear a veil,
You had better soon turn tail
And all help at operations out in China.

There's been a lot of snatching done, the habit seems a catching
one.

I mean the recent popular engagements;
And now-a-days one never knows, with captivating, clever
"poes,"
Whatever happens need cause no amazement;
And in this little letter, I bear from the "dove-cottery,"
That many other poems wait the asking;
To wait too long would be a sin—why don't you all go in
and win?
Or else their patience you'll be overtaking!
But they feel so very shy,
That they scarcely like to try,
If they never get encouragement or sign . . . ah!
But when once they've learned the way,
I feel sure they'll name the day,
And arrange to spend the honeymoon in China!

Chorus—But we feel so very shy,
That we scarcely like to try,
If you never give encouragement or sign . . . ah!
But whence else you teach the way,
And agree to name the day,
We will take you straight from here to happy China!

The doctors now-a-days have proved, that most of us should
be removed.

And why we all were made so is perplexing,
Our stomach's ready in a way, Appendicitis—cut another day,
More than a simple kidney's almost vexing,
Estomize ties itself in knots, we may as well get rid of lots,
Of liver we eat space a slice extensive;
The tiresome little cholera, when once it's gaze is never
crossed.

Although this is a heavy expense,
For it seems that now-a-days,
It has almost reached a craze,
To remove a little bit from time to time . . . ah!
But it brings in size big fees,
So my conscience is at ease,
And I'll go and introduce it into China!

Chorus—There's no doubt that now-a-days,
It has reached a perfect craze,
But for surgeons we all think it's a good sign . . . ah!
And you need not have a doubt,
They will quickly yank it out,
You will scarcely even need to go to China!

And now, how can we describe the farce at the
end? The plot was good, the words were really
humorous, and it was very cleverly acted.

Mr. Collinson, as the statue (*alias* Trotter), looked charming to a degree; his ability in keeping still, his delightful Cockney, and the real histrionic talent with which he gave full vent to the humour of his part appealed to everyone; whilst the dreadfully natural manner in which he depicted the statue's condition towards the end made us shake our heads in pained astonishment. Mr. Matthews, as the old gentleman who wished to buy the statue, gave an excellent exposition of a very difficult part. Mr. Braithwaite was really rich as the excitable, well-meaning, but fussy old landlady of corkscrew curbs and indignant little shrieks. Mr. Wales, as the troubled artist, is to be congratulated on his performance, and Mr. Coupland, as his would-be fiancée, was not only beautiful to look upon in her well-fitting up-to-date costume, but was altogether a fascinating girl. The piece went splendidly, the audience, in fact, was so carried away that the nurses actually sitting upon the telephone at the back of the room could not hear it ring, whilst a little boy in front shouted "look out!" when the purchasing party returned as "Alexander the Great" was enjoying a little pie! The orchestra discoursed delightful music under the capable conductorship of Mr. Teasdale.

Had we the space we should like to describe how on Xmas Day the Christmas Carollers—strong in voice and numbers—visited every ward in the hospital, under the able leadership of Miss Fisher and her companion—evidently the "Mr. Fisher" in the mind's eye of the patient who called out "Three Cheers for Mr. Fisher;" how lustily they sang, led by Sister Clapham, and what befell them on the way to I.B.

We should like to grow eloquent over the moonlight effects on the terrace on Xmas Eve, to tell of the delight of the patients with their Xmas Dinner and their Xmas Smoke, and the music to which Miss Wilkinsoe, Miss Atha, and other kind friends treated them, and to give full, glowing accounts of the last few coffees, in 3-Square and 17-Entrance, but our space is already overfilled. There is no doubt at all that everybody at the L.G.I. spent as happy a Christmas as is within memory, and as merry a one as their friends had wished them it might be.

The Medical Society.

On Tuesday, December 1st, the members met to hear a paper on "The Rise of Midwifery," by Mr. Smalles, there being all members present. Mr. Smalles gave a most interesting and instructive account of the rise of Midwifery—tracing its history from the earliest times up to the present day. He pointed out that the earliest records of the art were contained in the Bible, about B.C. 1700, and then went on to describe its progress during the successive centuries. In his account he mentioned such names as Hippocrates, Colesus, Semellae, etc., and gave a graphic description of the great work done by the Chamberlen family.

At the close of his lecture Mr. Smailes showed a number of curious antiquities kindly lent to him for the occasion by Professor Wright. An interesting discussion followed in which several members narrated their experiences in "The Blank" and "The Leylands." Mr. R. A. Veale, especially, creating great amusement by reading extracts from a "notable" work, obtained from one of his Semitic patients.

A vote of thanks to the lecturer was proposed by Mr. Whalley, and seconded by Mr. Arnott, and the meeting terminated at 7 o'clock.

W. B. H.

The competition for the President's Prize was held on December 15th, 13 members competing. Five minutes were allowed for the preparation, and five minutes for the delivery of each speech. Mr. Lawford Knaggs and Mr. Walter Thompson kindly acted as judges. Their award of the prize was to Mr. G. H. Sedzwick, who had "Home life a life in lodgings" as his subject. Mr. Veale, who spoke on "Is Asepsis being carried too far" was adjudged *promove accersit*, and Messrs. Elliott, Tomlin, and Thomas were honourably mentioned. The subjects covered a wide range, including Loving and Losing, etc., Personality as the essential attribute of a teacher, Trades Unions, Retaliation, Hero Worship, and the Expedition to Tibet. Hearty votes of thanks were given to the judges and to the President.

January 12th, 1904.

At this meeting Dr. J. B. Hellier read a paper entitled "An Essay on Mirth." Dr. Hellier said that the origin of mirth was traced by some writers to the conduct of the savage who laughs at his fallen enemy. It was thus excited by a sense of superiority over others; though a really humorous man laughed at his own misfortunes. Definitions of "wit" and "humour" were given with many amusing illustrations. Mirth was a means and not an end; its chief use being to act as a preventive to "worry." The President and many other members spoke in warm terms of Dr. Hellier's most interesting and entertaining paper. Many anecdotes were related, and a few questions asked, to which Dr. Hellier replied.

G. W. T.

The report of the "Lecture Night" on "The Liver," January 26th, is retained for want of room till our next issue.

The Smoker.

On Tuesday evening, January 26th, the second medical smoker of this winter session was held in the Refectory. Dr. Barrs, who had kindly consented to act as Chairman, arrived at 7.30, the time appointed

for the concert to begin, but owing to the meagre audience a start was not made until 7.55, when Mr. E. Sutcliffe led off in his well-known style, with "I see awaitin' for you, Josie." He was followed by Mr. Mallinson, who sang, "The Sound of the Drums," and as a well-merited encore, "Off to Philadelphia." Mr. Tomlin was heartily greeted for the treat he gave us on his violin, performing Paganini's "Tarentella" in true Paganini style on three strings. Then Mr. Maude sang for us "So do I," which struck home. He was succeeded by our now famous Baby—we beg his pardon, Mr. J. Dixon—with "The Jelly Sailor." (It was noticeable that Baby was not at all "at sea.") "Teddy" having rendered, with great effect, "The Ballymoney Conversation" and "When Father laid the carpet, etc.," Mr. W. L. Crawford touched the sentimental natures of several of the audience with "Under the Bamboo Tree," and finally, Mr. Macvean, with "Hiawatha" not only brought the house down, but secured an encore—the immortal "Pheasant"—which Dr. Wright was fortunate enough to be just in time to hear, and which brought the first part of the programme to a glorious conclusion.

Want of space forbids us to detail Part II. Its chief events, however, included a song by Dr. Clark (who would no doubt have done more for us but for his pharyngitis, which, however, was undetectable as he sang), Mr. Mallinson's descriptive Railway Ride song, and Mr. Macvean's imitable "Sandy Mc Clusky," which he sang in costume, and which he finished up by a well-executed Highland Fling; the applause which greeted this performance was immense, and nothing would pacify the audience but "Hiawatha" again as an encore! Mr. Ward's recital of the clinical history of his case by an old Yorkshireman suffering from Trigeminal Neuralgia evoked perhaps the best laugh of the evening. Messrs. Wales and Reed also contributed to the programme, and Mr. Sutcliffe ended as well as he had begun with "Shuv'er Dahn." Mr. Smailes accompanied brilliantly throughout.

A hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Barrs for so kindly and ably acting as our Chairman and to those visitors who had been good enough to come and help in our programme was proposed by Mr. Macvean, seconded by Mr. Birtwhistle, and carried with much acclamation. Replying, Dr. Barrs unconsciously defined the ideal state of mind for the Chairman at a smoker, when he said, "I'm not a great musician myself, but I know when I'm pleased."

It is much to be regretted that there was such a poor turn-up of students. A great amount of work falls upon the members of the Entertainments Committee in getting up these concerts, and it is really very disheartening to see them so badly patronised. When it was pleaded as an excuse with a member of the staff present that it was approaching exams, that kept men away, he replied that it seemed to him that the majority of those present were those who were just going up for examinations. Any suggestions for improving this state of things will be most thankfully received by any member of the Entertainments Committee.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the "Gryphon."

DEAR EDITOR,

May I be allowed to make a few suggestions that perhaps will improve the *Gryphon*?

Firstly, in the reports of the various societies and meetings held, would it not be a good plan to give an extract of the paper read or chief speeches made, and to omit the names of people who took part in discussion or gave vote of thanks, etc.?

(2) Why cannot the news given in the *Gryphon* be more up to the date of issue? Very often reports are given of events that happened months previously, and which must necessarily have lost interest by their "staleness."

(3) Why are the professors not asked to contribute more often? They have so wide a knowledge and experience, and nearly all have some time to spare I feel sure. Their articles are always greatly appreciated by the readers, and I am certain that their frequent contributions would largely help towards the improvement of the journal.

(4) Some serious subjects should appear in each number, even if they do not appeal to all the students. It may, perhaps, tend to make the latter somewhat interested in them, and would be much appreciated by a large majority of those who read the *Gryphon*.

(5) Why should the scenes of cricket and football, etc., be entered? Those interested know the results a long time before they appear in the journal, and they are most uninteresting and quite unreadable to everybody else.

Lastly, I would like to add that each student ought to feel it his or her duty, at times, to contribute something worthy of the *Gryphon*, and that those who are so ready to criticise its shortcomings are themselves partly responsible for not helping by their own efforts to improve our worthy journal.

C.

Jan. 23/04.

Editorial Note.—We are in hearty agreement with C. on every point. At the same time we must remark that the state of things which necessitated his last admirable suggestion is the root-cause of the necessity for many of his preceding suggestions. How can we omit the far too detailed accounts of the proceedings of College Societies and College Sports when each student does not feel it his or her duty, at times, to contribute something worthy of the *Gryphon*? There is only C.'s remark—number 3—which remains for us to answer. Here, too, we agree with C., except in his assumption that the professors have plenty of time to spare, for it has been our experience on many occasions to be refused an article, or that plea alone, by members of the staff.]

To the Editor of the "Gryphon."

DEAR SIR,

I wish to express my indignation at the bold and corner proceedings held in the College Library on December 9th, and which were, I believe, dignified

by the title "Reception of Associates." I think I am expressing a very general feeling when I say that the whole affair was an absolute insult to the new Associates, and I know, for a fact, that they felt it most keenly. Hitherto the conferring of degrees has been an occasion of little moment to Yorkshire students, taking place as it has done in a strange place and among strange people. But all the more do the Yorkshire students look forward to being received as Associates, in their own College Hall, among their own relatives, friends, Professors, and fellow-students, who have long been intimately connected with, and take deep interest in them. Instead of this, we had the miserable, scrambled farce which a few of the present students were graciously allowed to witness last Monday, and which was, I repeat, an insult rather than an honour, to last session's graduate.

E. A. W.

To the Editors of the "Gryphon."

DEAR SIRS,

I was much amused by R.B.N.'s suggestion that your magazine should be decreased in size and printed on inferior paper, and still more by the tempting bait he holds out that a reduction in price would result in what he is pleased to call "a financially more profitable magazine." He apparently overlooks the fact that the *Gryphon* is at present managed well enough to yield a handsome profit. I doubt not that the Editors are as anxious as R.B.N. is that the magazine should be in the hands of every student, but I do not expect them to give it away, with coupons for a free tea in the Refectory. R.B.N. is surprised to find that there is "a more or less continuous disbursement" (*sic!* O ye Editors!) during his sojourn at College. Did he expect that a University course would be provided free of charge, or did he look to the College to pay him for coming? If he refers to the very modest demands made by the Students' Union and its various branches, calculation will prove that he is at liberty to take excellent value for his money in the shape of cricket and footer games, reading room, and library accommodation, debates, demonstrations, and the rest, to say nothing of tea and cake. But don't ask the College to give itself away. We suffer quite enough as a body by things being done "on the cheap," and we cannot afford to pay heed to a wild suggestion that the present well-got-up magazine, with its "elaborate dimensions" and "substantial paper" should give place to a flimsy twopenny rag.

I do not recollect having previously observed the initials or the English of R.B.N. in the pages of the *Gryphon*; and, judging by the context, I suspect that when he calls himself a two years' "contributor," he means merely a "subscriber." Two years of such contributions would be the death of the magazine, or else of

Yours etc.,

S. H. E.

