

# Rouge et Noir.

FORTITER FIDELITER FORSAN FELICITER.

No. 1.

TRINITY COLLEGE, TORONTO, JANUARY, 1880.

VOL. I.

## UTOPIA.

BY E. T. NICHOL, B.A.

To sit with thee on the cliffs above  
And sing sweet songs with a god-touched tongue,  
In a voice with intensest passion strung,  
Which yet could not teach thee half my love.

To list to the murmur'ous rippling wave  
As it fell on the shore with its measured beat,  
With a sound as of long-haired sea nymph's feet  
On the sands which the streams of ocean lave.

To sit at thy feet till the light had waned,  
Till the sun sunk down from his golden way;  
To dream in thine eyes till the close of day,  
Till love alone in our hearts remained:

And then as swallows with warm red breasts  
To float away o'er the infinite main,  
To the sphondyl isles that are free from pain,  
But bathed in the sun-flood have love and rest.

## LACONICS.

BY W. M. CRUTTENDEN.

Not the least interesting study to one, who, from the pedestal of his own exclusiveness, deems himself able to stand aloof from the fancies and foibles of the many, is to watch the course of popular manias. They may be developed at first only in a single direction, but time alone is necessary for their general diffusion. The collecting fever, still at its height, was not long in contriving for itself an almost endless variety of subjects; Science and Art have contributed a liberal quota, but antiquarian research has furnished the lion's share, research so minute and detailed, that now not even the fire irons of our ancestors have escaped. Such a contagion as we have been considering is, in the main, irresistible. Each individual may give it the direction whither his interest chiefly centres, but escape it he may not. And so generally, the predominant tendencies of an age are ever found forcing their way to the surface through every allowable vent. They penetrate to all classes, they exert their influence on all temperaments, and appear to exercise a directing control over the energies of all. If reform be the subject chiefly agitated, the work of reformation, or at least of change with that intent, is almost limit-

less. This, we may distinctively characterize as an age of speed. Economy of time seems the all-engrossing design; labour-saving is rather subordinate, of account only in connection with that more important idea. We are always in a hurry, we bustle along, jostling all we meet, we are constantly seeking greater speed in every department of work, we waste no time in long and laborious methods if a short cut will bring us to the same end. "Life is short, art is long," seems the motto, expressed or understood, of the world of stir and bustle. Increased facilities of travel, improvements in machinery and lightning calculators are among the results of this continuous struggle to lengthen life by shortening the methods of its operations. Not only does this tendency affect the industries of hand and brain, but language, too, has felt its influence, and here it is that our preface leads us to the subject in hand.

Yes, *language* has indeed felt its influence, but in a manner, to say the least, peculiar. For it is certainly passing strange, that in this day of phonetics and phonography, when efforts are so strenuous to encompass in fewness of character a repleteness of words, such signal neglect is bestowed on the quantity of words themselves, employed expressive of thought. Why should we be puzzling ourselves how to rebuild the bridge in the shortest time and with the minimum of material, when we could greatly reduce its size consistently with our purpose? If, then, we would tend a little more towards Gulliver's taciturn philosophers, and strive for the happy medium between them and the average Loquax, greatly reduced would be the phonetic requirements to keep pace with the age. The adoption of an exact style, suffused with ideas, must be a better move in the right direction than the expunging of unnecessary consonants and unsounded vowels. Words, as the instruments of thought communication, should, no doubt, multiply in proportion to the increase of ideas, but in far too many cases are they employed to serve as a cloak for the want of the same. Realizing the wide-spread nature of this fault, we would avoid speaking dogmatically on a principle we may at the very

time be transgressing, however exemplary we may be in theory. To use a common illustration, like air under pressure, and in a higher proportion of increase, as we condense in volume of expression we gain in force. A few concise words, aptly chosen, have more weight than the most elaborate collection of wordy nothings, interspersed with but an occasional idea, and that almost drowned in voluminousness. Apropos of this, a now prominent journalist relates his first experience as a literary aspirant. He had chosen for his theme one of the burning questions of the day, and brought to bear upon it all the book talk he could muster to his aid. Words and sentences of satisfactory length were scarcely obtainable, and the entire article was profuse with hackneyed bombast. But for all that it had its merits, and well it might, considering the author's subsequent career. When finished, it was despatched to one of the leading dailies for insertion. The editor to whose department it appertained, instead of rejecting it summarily, as he might be supposed to do, considering the haste necessarily attendant on his duties, returned it with a laconic "boil it down," coupled with a few suggestions. He took the advice, boiled it down, culling out most of his favourite expressions, and again forwarded it. The result was its acceptance, the wordy wanderings of a column having been compressed into a short and pithy article of a few paragraphs; and this, doubtless, would be the experience of all tyros, if the substance of their efforts had sufficient intrinsic value to deserve so much consideration. The recommendation is not to sacrifice smoothness and finish to brevity, and to have recourse even to curtness, but to remove the unnecessary and purely ornamental, and write facts and opinions, not rhetorical effusions. The ablest and most vigorous writers of the day are those who have learned the value of space, and whose writings, however extensive, will admit of no condensation; and fitly here might we speak of the Johnstonian system of composition, the consideration of which must fall to some extent within the scope of this article. As an example, would the average reader derive any clear notion

from the following: "Anything reticulated and decussated at equal distances with interstices between the intersections." Would he for a moment suppose that it was the definition of *net work*? Yet such is the fact; and it is one of the best instances of that system that can be adduced. So heavy a style may indeed sit with average grace, on such an intellectual giant as the dogmatic Doctor, but for retaining the interest of his readers how greatly does even he lose by contrast with his chatty little biographer Boswell? But it is his feeble imitators that we would consider. Innumerable are those who recklessly meddle with his ponderous tools without the strength and ability to wield them. It is this striving after long derivatives and doubly and trebly complex sentences, that, is most of all, the germ of this prevalent error we are deprecating.

The formation of proverbs, perhaps, best illustrates the cogency of brief forms of expression. A lengthened treatise, inculcative of a single moral or ethical point, strikes less forcibly on the attention and memory than the same idea stated in the form of a simple maxim. How would the philosophy of "a rolling stone gathers no moss" appear in such a garb as this: "those whose tendencies are erratic, and who fail in application to a set undertaking, but are fickle and volatile, will never attain to, I say not the acme, but the medium, nay, the beginning of success." This could be extended to many times its length, still expressive of the same idea and proportionally diminishing in effect.

The Greeks, it appears, were such ready thinkers that shortened forms, such as *Zeugma* and the *Constructio Praegnans*, were quite general, their quick perception enabling them to comprehend the full meaning intended, from certain indications of it. Happy Greeks! We, in our greater dulness, though somewhat appreciating, do not worthily emulate that advantage, nay, it is to be feared we do not properly and systematically aim at emulation.

Independent of a literary range, it is of interest to note those examples of laconicism that history has stamped for immortality, and to observe the character of the men from whom they come. It is these, men of deeds not words, who have mostly convulsed the world, and it seems as though no other style of utterance would at all be in consonance with their character. Can we conceive of Leonidas entering into any more lengthened defiance than the laconic "come and take them," in answer to Xerxes' haughty demand

for the surrender of his arms. Almost as household property has Caesar's celebrated despatch become, *veni, vidi, vici*. Of course: What else could Caesar do but come, see, and conquer? Though it be to the glory of our neighbours over the border and not to our own, we cannot but notice the dispatch of the gallant American Commodore, after the well-fought battle on Lake Erie: "We have met the enemy and they are ours." Nor yet ought we to overlook the words of brave Lawrence, borne mortally wounded from the bloody deck of the Chesapeake: "Don't give up the ship." Such as these are the expressions that never die. And now, as we call to memory these instances of brevity that have at times attracted our notice, there is one that strikes more impressively than any other. Is there, can there be, a more touching description indicative of a Saviour's love, His sympathy with our failings, His adoption of a true human soul, than that shortest expression of deepest sorrow: "Jesus wept"? To the adoption of a system of laconics, then, we look. Let derivative spelling remain. We can so shorten our style as to render orthographical change needless, keeping ever in mind that "brevity is the soul of wit," and not of wit only, but of every expressed mind-production.

### A NATIONAL UNIVERSITY.

BY R. T. NICHOL.

There are some questions which disappear and recur with comet-like periodicity. They lead a sort of vagabond life; and like importunate tramps persist in their calls till satisfied. It is remarkable too that their advocacy produces no very acrimonious discussion, and that the opposition to their proposals, if it appear at all, is generally apathetic. This is in fact the main reason of their lingering and eccentric existence. Those denominated "burning questions," no matter what their intrinsic value, are kept prominently before the public, like bad-tempered children, by their very noise, and promptly disposed of in obedience to the popular demand. The other unfortunate class, however, obtain but scant consideration; and are settled finally only in consequence of a feeling of weariness, such as won justice for the widow of Scripture. And all this because men are, on the whole, sufficiently convinced of the truth of their prominent propositions, and refuse to take the trouble to scrutinize them more closely.

Of this nature seems to be the notion of a National, that is, Provincial, University.

Few, I fancy, will be found to dispute the desirableness of such an institution; few blind enough not to perceive the fallacies and misfortunes of our present system. Evidently too, it is the only solution of the difficulty.

To have several—in Ontario there are six—corporations empowered to grant degrees, each of which fixes its own standard, is an unsatisfactory and confusing state of affairs. That two men are legally entitled to write the same letters after their names, is no guarantee in the world that they possess at all similar excellence in scholarship. It never could be, under the most favourable circumstances, more than an approximate test, but now the difficulty is six-fold increased.

University affiliation, then, is the remedy to which we must look for relief.

But though men are pretty unanimous on this point, they seem disposed to wrangle as to the way in which it shall be effected. Now the root of all their disputes lies in the diversity of ideas respecting a University—its essential functions, aims, and constitution.

Of all errors on this point, the most common is that which confuses the terms—College and University.

A College is not a University; nor need a University be necessarily represented by a College. For us, a University is essentially only a degree-granting body. It is true that most Universities have an authorized training-school, or set of training-schools, where students are prepared for the University examinations, and these are the Colleges; but in all essential functions the two bodies are perfectly distinct. Each has its own officers, its own rules, its own duties.

On this basis nothing could be easier than University affiliation. It would require only that a central board, elected by the colleges conjointly, should send down to each of its constituents in the provinces, the papers for the intermediate and degree examinations, or, if need be, require the candidates to present themselves in the metropolis.

Uniformity would thus be gained—a gain inestimable—and yet the colleges left to form their internal arrangements as they chose.

This is the theory of the case. In practice, doubtless, there would be individual jealousies to compose, and individual rights to clamour for recognition. The task, nevertheless, would

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not be an impossible one: it would require only fact, forbearance, and a large-hearted desire to help forward the general good.

But there is another idea of a University, and to me it appears the truest and most complete, though at the present time, I am forced to confess, utterly Utopian. It is that which regards a University, as not merely an examining body, but a means for gathering together the learned and refining influences of a country, and maintaining them so as to be capable of the most wide-spread benefit.

It should be preeminently a seat of learning, a resort of the learned, the determinant of national taste on all questions of literature, science, and art; capable of speaking ably, thoughtfully, and decisively on all matters political and social. Such seems to have been the idea of the founders of the great ancient universities—Oxford, Cambridge, Salamanca, Bologna—which at once contained and directed the intellectual life of Europe, and some of which continue sensibly to influence it still. Such was the idea which constituted Athens, though conferring no degrees in our sense of the term, a true university; and such should be the idea in the foundation of any University to be called National.

To produce one on this plan it would be requisite to collect all the institutions, at present scattered through the country, into the metropolis of the Province. Here at the very outset is a tremendous obstacle. If a provincial town has granted a bonus for the maintenance of one of these Universities, it will not easily or carelessly listen to a proposition to remove it. As it is, we already hear murmurs of discontent at Toronto's monopoly. The institutions themselves, too, would be at the time inconvenienced by the change, particularly in not being able immediately to dispose of their buildings. But even all this trouble and expense, I cannot think incompatible with the end. For what are the advantages? They are numerous: chiefly that we should thus obtain the largest possible number of men really ambitious of learning, and be able to offer them the largest inducements. For not the increased funds alone, of such an institution, but its increased scholastic advantages would attract to it, or enable it to procure, for all its members, the services of those, whose learning the present small and scattered Universities could not enjoy at all, or at most singly.

But whatever its constitution, in neither case could it in any way interfere with the internal arrangements of the colleges. That Trinity men should still require a surplice in addition to the usual academic dress, would, I most sincerely trust, always be the case: and that those who quote S. Jerome in disproof of episcopacy should reside at Queen's, would not prevent them from meeting cordially their Catholic brethren in the common lecture-halls of the University.

As to an objection sometimes raised by thoughtless persons, that affiliation would depreciate or cancel all degrees granted by the independent institutions, it is foolish in the extreme. Common sense would tell us that the latter would not be likely to be intrinsically so valuable; and there is nothing to prevent an agreement being reached that they should not be cancelled. In a generation or so they would all be gone. But in case of the worst, the surest proof that we of these unregenerate days could give of the worth of those depreciated degrees real would be their cheerful surrender to the requirements of the age, and the spirit of progress which demanded them.

Such then are some of the aspects of affiliation; and, in rough guise, a few of its advantages and difficulties. It will be a happy day, when a question, so big with importance to the educational interests of our new country, shall be lifted out of the region of mere theoretical discussion, and earnestly taken in hand with a view to instant adoption.

#### THE INSTITUTE.—SOME SUGGESTIONS.

BY FREDERIC MOFFATT, B.A.

IF our Right Reverend, Reverend and lay fathers in Council appreciate, as thoroughly as I imagine, the present happy revival of energy in the residents, and their anxiety, however selfish, for her best interests, they will most assuredly help us to turn to better account in the future the opportunity, which the Literary Institute offers, of supplementing the ordinary College curriculum.

The Institute's aim has always been to combine a literary with a forensic training. The former has never been lost sight of, though the latter has apparently engrossed the larger share of attention. It would be idle for me to occupy space in stating how essential to the wants of the present age is something more than a smattering of

such a pursuit; and, bearing in mind the present scope of the Institute and the suggestion to which attention will be here directed, I make bold to state that our society may be made no small factor in the College course.

Left almost entirely to the control of succeeding seniors and freshmen, as this college institution has been in the past, yet, with its limited resources, it has played a far more important part in the formation of that distinctive character, which it is our pride to attribute to Trinity men, than many even of her own children are aware of.

Now, since the authorities have always been adverse to the establishment of a distinctive "English" Chair,—preferring to allow more than a quarter of a century to elapse in the expectation of having, in the happy future, an endowed Professorship of English Literature—what could be more reasonable than to apply a certain portion of the College funds in furthering the efforts of the men themselves in that particular branch of their college training, the practical benefit of which in after life cannot be too highly estimated.

Space forbids my entering upon the details of my proposal; let it suffice to point out that we are peculiarly happily circumstanced in having, at our own doors almost, numbers of scholarly and able men, whose services would be easily obtainable and whose terms in such a cause would certainly not press too heavily on the University chest, that would only be too happy to give a short course of evening lectures to the members of the Institute on the most important "English" subjects. A prize essay, in addition to those already offered by the "Council," on one of the hundred difficulties that beset our Alma Mater—an open competition to all her sons, that the best article may be obtained—the essay to be delivered at some of our gatherings or published in this new and welcome sheet, with *kudos* and cash to offer a double inducement; with four or five open debates, during term time, on some burning question of University interest (and we have not to go far to find such), would add to my proposed scheme further means of carrying out the design of the Institute's founders, and might, in addition, not only increase the interest of those in residence in our meetings, but also call back to old Trinity many of her sons who have not of late had particular cause to reunite, though distance is not in many cases an excuse.

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Let but the various details be properly mastered, and that energy, which, rightly or wrongly, I allow to her children, called into full play, a selfish interest (to put it on no higher ground) will cause my scheme to commend itself to all members alike, and the wisdom of the College Council in seconding such efforts will never be regarded as debatable.

The present Council of the Institute have, if they do but realize it, a rare chance of vastly increasing the usefulness of their charge; for it is only natural to insist that the inauguration of such a scheme as I propose must have a beginning in the exertions of the members themselves through their executive committee.

The whole matter at the outset is dependent entirely on the inclination and enterprise of the present residents. I do not doubt the one and am confident of the other. It would of course be most unwise of the College authorities to attempt such a course unless they were certain of being fully seconded in their exertions by the earnest efforts of the students. The Literary Institute have the business pretty much in their own hands; and if they will but go thoroughly into the details, and place their claims before the powers that be, I anticipate that this simple suggestion (however feebly stated) will, in the immediate future, become an accomplished fact.

We must thank our numerous friends who have helped us in our first number. As we stated in our circular prospectus, this issue is, to a certain, extent experimental. We hope that the idea of a *College* paper will be taken up by the residents; and that the old graduates will also contribute to make it a success. Particularly do we wish to thank Messrs. NICHOL and MOFFATT for their kind and valuable aid. To Mr. CARSON, too, our sincere thanks for his many timely hints and material assistance. In matters local we have been a trifle behind hand, on account of the labour involved at setting out. We hope to be able to devote more time and space to that department hereafter. We should like to enlarge the form of this paper as well as its scope in forthcoming issues; but this depends upon the assistance we obtain from all interested in the undertaking. We hope to hear from all who receive our specimen number, and that they will favour us with whatever news is within their reach. We earnestly solicit contributions for our columns. We consider our publication timely, and have

no fears that our efforts or appeal will be slighted.

We hope in our next issue to be able to devote a column to news and gossip from Trinity College School, Port Hope. To Trinity Medical School, too, we hope to allow a column; but from neither of these institutions have we been able to hear before going to press; so, we hope, an absence of reference to them and theirs will not be attributed to any lack of enterprise on our part or interest on theirs.

## Rouge et Noir.

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY IN THE INTERESTS OF  
TRINITY COLLEGE.

### EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS.

W. M. CRUTTENDEN, Secretary.

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FRED. E. HOWITT, Business Manager.

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No notice can be taken of anonymous contributions. All matter to be signed by the author, not necessarily, etc.

Advertisements, subscriptions, and business communications, should be directed to the Business Manager.

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TRINITY COLLEGE TORONTO.  
JANUARY, 1880.

"MANY of our readers are, no doubt, perplexed at the name of this paper. To an "outsider," casually observing our title page, there will appear little connection between Trinity, or the motives and intentions of this publication, and the tables of Monaco or Baden-Baden.

Continental experiences, in fact, had nothing to do with our choice of a name—else we should still be at a loss. Trinity long ago, as old graduates will remember, adopted "Red and Black" as the College colours, and many schools, &c., have since followed her example. When going to press we concluded some title was necessary. The publishers were not a committee. They sought to represent no one, but Trinity's interests only. A name, representative yet not arrogant, was wanted and our colours appeared to suggest a local loyalty, without being unwarrantably comprehensive. The name, we confess, has a suggestive ring, but is not our just appreciation of Trinity's interests at stake? Our venture, too, is hazardous if our friends permit us to be wholly self-dependent,

and for their aid and sympathy we look. We hope not to risk much on the "Black." The dark side of things is a topic for the splenetic, and success with a hopeful future the reward of those who stake their all on the final ascendancy of *couleur de rose*."

### SALUTATORY.

In presenting to the friends of Trinity College, this, the initial number of *Rouge et Noir*, we deem a full explanation of our course advisable. A College Journal of this type is distinctively a new departure for us. There have indeed in the past been two quasi-publications, *Kritikos* and *Episkopon*, the latter of which is still in existence. The interest in it, however, is wholly centred in the College, and its functions are merely, as its motto indicates, those of a *custos morum collegiariorum*. It is with no intention of interfering or conflicting with this, that we have taken upon ourselves the experimental issue of this Journal: to the casual observer it is patent that our scope is far broader and more comprehensive. However at the outset, we desire it to be understood that we do not arrogate to ourselves the representing of the University at large, but that it is merely with a hope of ultimately attaining that object that we make our *debut*.

The necessity of such a representation is manifest enough. Alone, of all the Colleges in the Dominion, Trinity has hitherto been without any medium for the ventilation of opinions on topics of University interest. [Whatever abuses or semblance of the same, have burdened the College, there has been no means of indicating. Recourse could only be had to the columns of the public press, so ill-adapted to the discussion of aught save matters of general importance. It is this deficiency that we purpose to supply.]

There is also another incentive to this course, and almost equally forcible; we feel that there has been a gradual alienation, not indeed by design, but none the less detrimental in its effects, between the various classes in the University. Reunions have become more and more infrequent intercommunication more and more broken. That active, living interest, so essential to University prosperity, has been abated through lack of a connecting bond between the Alumni, and Undergraduates. If any means may be devised to augment their mutual relations and to facilitate the interchange of opinions, it cannot fail

to enhance the prosperity of the University. That means, we believe, *Rouge et Noir* will afford.

Furthermore, we are desirous to set our relations with other Universities on a more familiar footing, and not to be so self-ostracized from the College world as heretofore. Alive to the necessity of a bold beginning, we have acted thus far on our own responsibility, with confidence that we need only evince that we have the will to press this undertaking, to rally all true supporters of the College to our aid. We have begun with a quarterly issue, inasmuch as we have no means of judging how great will be our support or how extensive our patronage. Should results justify such a change, a more frequent publication is of course desirable. Since it is our aim to advance the highest interests of the University, we invite for our columns free and liberal discussion on all topics pertaining to it, assuming in no case responsibility for the opinions of our contributors. A digest of College and personal news will appear in each number, and we earnestly solicit items of this character. We intend that *Rouge et Noir* shall be the exponent of unprejudiced, broad, and liberal views, and shall ever be ready to cry up a sober, steady, sensible, course of reform.

We trust that in our criticism on any point, we shall not be misunderstood. We would escape the imputation of being demolishers only, and purpose ever to throw a suggestion of improvement into the gap we have theoretically made. Moreover, these opinions may, in the main, be regarded as emanating from within, where, most of all, abuses and mismanagement may be appreciated, and we crave their due consideration from the very facilities we have for discerning the results of the existing system.

In conclusion, we urge all, Undergraduates, Alumni, and friends from without, if our efforts appear worthy of seconding, to come to our support with a will, and join with us in converting this small beginning into a valuable and important University organ.

We have repeatedly noticed during the past season the deeper interest taken by the general public in the Association game of football; nor can we regard this in any way surprising, for without discussing in detail the relative merits of the Rugby game as contrasted with it, we are able to offer a most obvious explanation. The Association possesses that pro-

verbial strength of unity we so deplorably lack. While there are within our own ken, no less than ten Rugby clubs in Ontario, there has never been any organization, or mutual understanding as to definite rules; we have not, like the Association clubs, a tribunal to which to refer all disputes, we have no facilities for arranging a definite series of matches by which every club is brought into contact with every other, and in fact we appear to the public to be the few-and-far between representatives of a game that is being rapidly superseded by a better. All this is greatly to be deprecated; and we recommend that a meeting of representatives from all these clubs be assembled in this City during the winter, to organize a permanent Rugby Association. Meantime we earnestly urge all to consider the expediency of such a course, and especially our sister University, to join with us in taking the initiative.

Trinity has always been a subject of much concern to those avowedly hostile to her. For nearly thirty years she has been surfeited with advice from without of a more or less pertinent character. Her advisers have suggested many strange courses, though in most cases they have taken pains to demolish rather than to edify. A timely hint is often not amiss, and, if honest and practical, Trinity, we have no doubt, would accept it on its merits. But it is to the class of thoughtless writers, who flood the public press with hap-hazard assertions and unnatural deductions, that we wish to draw our readers' attention. As a specimen of what we refer to we find a Toronto Curate—a comparatively new comer—the Rev. Mr. Rainsford to be the latest victim of this contagion. In a letter to the daily press he has lately put forth a suggestion—calmly and seriously, no doubt, and honestly, we presume. He asks, in effect, that this University should be blotted out, and that in its place a New Trinity should be established in the form of a Divinity School—a most desirable adjunct to the secular University of Toronto. \* \* \*

Twenty-nine years ago, the good Bishop of Toronto was the means of raising a large fund for the purpose of establishing a Church of England University; and much money was subscribed, both here and in England, to supply a want felt by a large section of the public.

Many a poor missionary gave a tithe of his year's income for the avowed purpose of maintaining an University

in direct antagonism to its secular sister, who, with Government aid and the lion's share of our predecessor's estate, was no mean rival. And now, in plain language, what does Mr. Rainsford ask? That Trinity's trustees, heedless of their grave responsibilities, legal and moral, should fraudulently surrender her charter and misapply the trust funds committed to them, that a rich body of malcontents may be saved the expense of establishing their ideal Divinity School.

This, undoubtedly, is the Rev. gentleman's request, unless he pleads an ignorance of historical facts and their natural inference. And granting Mr. Rainsford an honesty of purpose, surely his is a very flippant manner of dealing with a serious subject. If, to his mind, Trinity is ripe for disintegration, is not such handling as this a mere toying with the death knell. Supposing we grant him his case, what a statement of it! The trumpet is sounded from without that our walls may fall down flat; but has not the enemy neglected to encompass the subject of his wrath? If Mr. Rainsford is in earnest let him state his case clearly, and not make a weak suggestion dependent on a false premiss. We should apologize to our readers for giving such prominence to the *Globe's* correspondent, were it not that the letter referred to is based on the assumption that Trinity is in a moribund condition. And yet, as all graduates know, our prospects were never brighter, nor our numbers greater. Trinity is not going to die. On her behalf we resent the idea of suicide, suggested by her ill-wishers, and their impudence in contemplating a will in their favour.

#### A FAREWELL.

We could have wished to present to our readers our first number all sprightly and hopeful, without a hint of sorrow. This was not to be. It is with feelings of unmingled regret that we refer to the Provost's resignation, and his imminent departure for England.

Connected with Trinity from its foundation, his name has become so inseparably linked to it, that it will be hard not only for old Trinity men, but also, we imagine, for the country at large, to disassociate them.

We do not intend here to panegyrize him—it is needless,—nor to review his life. That life spent, for the greater part, in noble devotion to a noble cause, has been long before

We have also suggested that, *ceteris paribus*, one of our own country, a native by birth and training, rather than an immigrant, would be more adapted to her present need. We have been outspoken upon this subject, and its vital importance is our apology. Our Provost is a Life-President nominally responsible to a close corporation, whose course of action he will, in most cases, inspire. The rule of the Provost is, in effect, autocratic, and that of the Vice-Chancellor but little less so. And wisely, no doubt. Upon those who may be chosen to select a fitting successor to our present eminently worthy Provost, we again urge the grave responsibility of their task. On their penetration and judgment depends the making or marring of our University. Our wants are obvious. Nothing can thrive, but the fabulous toad, when the fossilization of its surroundings is complete.

#### ABOUT COLLEGE.

—Subscribe!

—Who owns the piano?

—Wanted—a new chapel organ.

—Don't fail to have a look at the *drooping*.

—When and how often does the Shakespeare Club meet?

—“Cap” of the light artillery is again on hand to muster his forces.

—Congratulations to Messrs. Allen and Nichol on their first-class Honors in classics.

—Prof. Strathy's lectures on music are deservedly popular. Mus. Docs. in embryo are to be met on all sides.

—Among the Freshmen this year we find one of a term's experience at University College. Trinity will give a kind welcome to her sister's fledgling.

—What becomes of the terrace flowers in winter? Transplanted somewhere they certainly are, and yet the dining hall window-sills are well adapted for their reception.

—What a transformation in the college grounds has taken place in the last few seasons! Old graduates will recollect the terrace mud walks, the thistle crop in the lawn and the coal cinders struggling with the avenue mud. To give the Dean his due, the improvements are mainly due to his exertions. Flowers and a rich sod, a lucrative, if inappropriate, oat field, and a good road, with the prospect of a handsome double row of elms, are no small gain. A more liberal growth of

Virginia creeper, and the substitution of gravel walks for the oft-turned planks, would be more steps in the right direction.

—Good Father “Episkopon”—venerable prelate—after having rivalled the immortal “Rip” in the length of his nap, has again appeared to the terror of evil doers. He is as good as ever, some of his contributors displaying a deal of humour and originality without outraging good taste as “Kritikos,” the late usurper, did. There is, we think, too little attention given to prose writing—it would be better if both forms of composition received their share. Some of Mr. D. Howard's drawings—for, we believe, it is an open secret that he is the rough outline sketcher—are very creditable. The frontispiece is very neat, showing the north view of the interior of our new Convocation Hall with appropriate figures. On the whole, “Episkopon” has proved that he is well worthy of a renewed support.

—The substitution of a coal stove for the dining-hall furnace is certainly an improvement. The former costly contrivance was practically useless. The gas jets in the hall used to try to warm it up a bit on a cold evening; but during the cold dip last winter, when the mercury got so far down in the zeros that it began over again and was found marking “boiling point” outside the science lecture-room, the very toast, it was said, was warmer than the hall. The temperature of the tea even put in the shade. Well, the remedy has been discovered and one more eyesore has been added to the building. By the way, whether thirteen large base-burners, with lecture-room warmers of miscellaneous pattern and some thirty grates as auxiliaries, are cheaper and more satisfactory than a steam furnace, is a question for the authorities. Whether the latter would be equally efficient in distributing through the corridors their due allowance of nastiness, in the shape of coal-gas, is also, perhaps, a consideration.

—There is a report current about college that this, our first number, was somewhat delayed by the “indisposition” of one of the management. We publicly deny the allegation and can lick the “allegator.” Apply at the office of our fighting editor—not a hundred miles from Professor Boys's quarters—between the hour of 9 and 10 A.M., on Saturdays. Bring a Doctor. While we are at it, we may as well warn Mr. S., that, if he intrudes again upon the editors' sanctum while

they are reviewing the latest work on Political Economy, just to suggest a pun like “Rooshan War,” and there is a bottle of the fluid any where around, there won't be an Inkier-man—Police!!

—Convocation day was rather late this year—on the 18th ult. It always has been an erratic festival, which, provided it confined itself to Michaelmas Term, was permitted to appear whenever the powers that be had spare time. It was unusually lively this year—though it is a question whether the boisterous element is thoroughly appreciated by our guests. We don't mean to dampen good spirits, some of their results—the songs—were very creditable. We must congratulate Messrs. Nichol and Greaves on their prose and verse respectively. We hope to be able in a forthcoming number to publish one or both compositions.

—A correspondent sends us the following:—

“Now that we think of it, why shouldn't Trinity have a little Quintette Club of her own, or something of the sort? We have three violins, a couple of cornets, a clarinet, and there is no lack of pianists. A guitar, too, could be added to the list. Why not have a band?”

Spare us! It is bad enough to know from experience that there are cornets and jew's-harps, fiddles of dubious date and sundry pairs of bones among us; but to have it suggested that these nerve-torturers should seek additional strength in union; that a band should be started, and that thereby we should be subjected to redoubled discord, is too much. The Dean has more than once proposed to grade the rooms, and fix proportionate rents; and if this idea is carried out, and some corridor is victimized as a practice hall, what then? A corresponding depreciation in the rentals of the neighbouring rooms, and, we hope, the formation of a vigilance committee. *Verbum sap:*

—We understand that the Ven. the Provost is to remain with us throughout the rest of the college year, a curate meanwhile supplying his place in his English parish.

—There are one or two things in the gymnasium that should be attended to immediately. One is, the vaulting bar, which some stout mortal in his resolve to cut down his weight managed to crack last term. It is a necessity and should be replaced. Again the sacks of sea weed which serve the purpose of kill-falls are torn a little, and an additional one is needed under the rings. Ambitious athletes are grumbling. Whose business is it to replace and repair?

## THOUGH LOST TO SIGHT, &amp;c.

— Halliwell, '79, heard from at Hillier, Ont.

— Where is Garrett, of the same year?

— Rev. P. T. Rowe paid us a flying visit this Michaelmas.

— Nichol, '79, has the English mastership of Perth Collegiate Institute. Much success to you, R. T.

— Why has not Gunne, '78, shown himself for some time past? When last spoken he was at Vienna High School. Has he so soon forgotten Trinity cricket and Trinity beer!

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