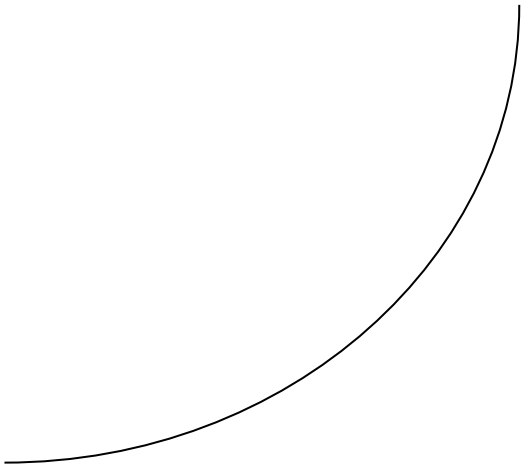


For Dr. Georgy Levit,

Who made experts out of us all.



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Tooth & Claw

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Dear Readers,

I write to you as I sit hunched over my computer, an exhaustion headache creeping its way around my temples to join the dark circles under my eyes, realizing only now that all I am running on is three hours of sleep and pure, post-exam adrenaline. Such is the April of an undergrad. I cannot help but wonder how many of the pieces here in Volume XI of *Tooth & Claw* were first incarnated after a sleepless, caffeine-fuelled night in the Wilson Room, in an end-of-term scramble like my own. Regardless of how they entered this world, I am proud to present you with this diverse and insightful collection of pieces, the secret scholarship of your peers.

Colonel Chris Hadfield spoke at Dalhousie this week, and I feel that his words on communication are especially worth sharing with you now. When someone needs to communicate with you, it is not enough to merely listen to them—you must really *hear* what they are saying. Of course, Col. Hadfield was referring to a necessary part of working with his fellow astronauts on the ISS, but I think this advice applies well to the study of both historical and contemporary texts. I believe our challenge as historians of science is to really *hear* what the author is expressing, to look beyond the ink and between the lines so that we unearth their intentions. And then, we can only hope to send these ideas earthbound, perhaps with a few thousand more characters, but with no less candour than a Hadfield tweet.

In the following pages, expect to catch your reflection in the glass mirrors of Versailles, to discover ingenious ways to subvert Victorian prudery, and even to descend into a creatively-induced fit of madness. Heartfelt thanks are due to the dazzling contributors, stalwart editors, and supportive faculty who saw this volume through from start to finish. In particular, I would like to recognize the cover design by King's student, Rawb Leon-Carlyle, who managed to meditate on vital mechanisms of the heart when he wasn't busy designing book jackets or writing other papers as riveting as the one you will find in this volume. And with that, I give you the 2013 - 2014 edition of *Tooth & Claw*.

May your humours ever be in balance,

Claire Burnard
Editor-in-Chief, 2014

Tooth & Claw

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