

Milton drank his tea, or to see the original MSS. of Lord Byron, and many other historical reminiscences.

THE eminent Italian tragedian, Ernesto Rossi, will visit Toronto on Monday next, appearing that night as Hamlet at the Grand Opera House. He, like Salvini, speaks his lines in Italian, the rest of the company speaking English.

PROFESSOR LOUDEN's lecture room having become too small for the public meetings of the Literary Society, the General Committee has asked the College Council for the use of Convocation Hall, for these meetings; admission to be by ticket.

THE Glee Club has been requested to take part in a Concert, to be given soon in Shaftesbury Hall, by the Church of the Redeemer.

THE subject for debate at the public meeting of the Debating Society, on Friday next, will be "Is Canada's connection with Great Britain a sentiment or a principle?"

THE Debating Society held an ordinary meeting on Friday, Nov. 4th, the president in the chair. The subject of debate was, "Resolved that a prohibitory liquor law passed by a mere majority is unjust." In the "Senior" room, Mr. Bowes read an essay on "Chivalry;" readings were given by Messrs. Wishart and Broad; and the debate was conducted, on the affirmative, by Messrs. Blake, Baird and Manson; and on the negative, by Messrs. Creelman, Gunther and Leslie; the chairman, after an exhaustive summing-up, giving his decision in favor of the affirmative. In the "Junior" room (the 2nd vice-president, Mr. McKay, in the chair), Mr. Burnham read an essay on "Education;" Mr. Holmes gave a reading; and Messrs. O'Flynn, W. Gordon and Bannerman, argued the affirmative, and Messrs. Lee and H. Irwin the negative of the debate, the chairman deciding in favor of the negative. It was announced that the meetings on Nov. 11th and 25th will be open meetings, and that on Nov. 18th a public meeting. The subject of debate for the next open meeting will be, "Resolved, that the principle of Centralization of Government in Canada should be encouraged."

MR. WILLIAM FLETCHER, B.A., '75, was drowned recently in Cape Breton. Deceased was a metallist in natural sciences and Prince's prizeman, and a brother of Prof. Fletcher, and of Hugh Fletcher, of the Dominion Geological Survey, all graduates and metallists of Toronto.

At the Footing Dinner at McGill College last week, Mr. R. F. Ruttan, B.A., '81, responded to the toast of "Our Freshmen;" and, according to the *Star*, made the best speech of the evening.

At Trinity College yesterday there was a choral service in the morning, a lunch at noon, and Convocation in the afternoon, at which the new Provost, the Rev. Mr. Body, was installed. At the convocation, in the evening, an address was presented to Mr. Body from the Faculty, Professors, Graduates and Undergraduates of the University, congratulating him on his appointment as Provost, lauding the high honors and distinctions won by him during his college career, and welcoming both himself and Mrs. Body as friends among them. In reply he said, that he did not think that higher education could go on without being accompanied by religious training, and was thankful that at the old college to which he came these principles were so broadly marked out. The proceedings wound up with a dance in Convocation Hall.

THE annual dinner of the Trinity Medical School took place on Thursday, Nov. 3rd, there being a large attendance of students. Mr. Natrass presided, and Messrs. Sawyers, H. C. Wilson, and R. L. Stewart filled the vice-chairs. Mr. Natrass, in his opening address, said the progress of Trinity Medical School had been most encouraging. Their Freshman class was the largest they ever had, their building had been extended, and they had new apparatus. He thought the professors might give a little more attention to questioning their classes than was now observed. The dinner was in every way a success, and the speeches were all good. Mr. Mulock's reply to the toast of the universities with which the school is affiliated involved the question of the amalgamating of the two medical schools, and elicited hearty applause.

The salutatorian at Yale this year was a German; the valedictorian a Hebrew; and the prize declaimer, a Chinaman. But when it came to real classical culture, America came to the front. The pitcher of the Yale Base Ball Club was an American.

ONE of the performers on the horizontal bar at the Summer Circus in Paris, is a Harvard graduate of '76.

THE bride was led up the broad aisle,

Got up in the most killing staisle;

When asked if she'd be

A true wife to be,

She promptly replied: "I should smaisle."

'VARSITY MEN. *Presbyterian College Journal*: Our talented associate editor, W. T. Herridge, B.A., during the vacation occupied the pulpit of St. Paul's Church, in Montreal.

MR. JOHN CARRUTHERS, B.A., '79, spent the summer in the British Isles and France.

MR. F. NELSON, B.A., '81, is studying law at Ann Arbor, Michigan.

MR. W. L. BAIN, of the Third Year, is studying medicine at Ann Arbor, Michigan.

MR. H. ST. Q. CAYLEY, having spent the summer on the Continent, has just returned home.

PLEA FOR A NEW ETHIK.

"Strange to say, even the Utilitarian school, which at first sight appears to be distinguished from the rest by recognizing natural causation, is, if not so far from complete recognition of it, yet very far."—*Herbert Spencer's Data of Ethics*.

The principles of evolution are now so universally admitted, that it seems odd that they are not to a greater extent applied to the solution of the ordinary phenomena of practical life. We have had in our hands, for some time, histories of the rise and development of painting, architecture, and the other fine arts. But where former treatment has been unsatisfactory is in this, that such histories have given us an examination from an objective, to the exclusion of the subjective, point of view. I do not refer to the primordial impressions on the senses of our antediluvian ancestors, which, in the course of ages, have resulted in the works of an ANGELO or a RAPHAEL, so much as to the results of more complex impressions in a highly advanced state of civilization. It is a matter of common observance that a tastefully decorated room exercises a sympathetic influence over the mind; analogous to it is the influence exercised by music, except that, with the latter, the wave of feeling is fuller and more massive. Now, why should not some effort be made to estimate the exact influence on us, especially from an ethical view, of our environment? No misdirected inquiry, since to the Positivist, a sensation, a moral judgment, and an effort of the reason, are *ejusdem generis*. As a sense-impression due to the organs of sight or hearing creates a feeling of pleasure or pain, Utilitarianism must concede that the surroundings of everyday life have an ethical value. We thus arrive at the necessity of an Ethik of *Æsthetics* (I do not use the term in its modern slang sense), a subject which has been vaguely hinted at by many philosophers and would-be philosophers. To show the importance of the question, take a concrete example. Imagine luxuriously harmoniously furnished apartments, inhabited by two or three students. The only incongruous object is some unsightly piece of furniture. The student who sits opposite this deformed object, at first must, from time to time, experience some mental sufferings, which become less and less, and finally die away. But this subjugation of a mental, almost an ethical distaste, a disobedience to an æsthetic categorical imperative, is not consummated without irrevocable loss to the unhappy subject. The inflexible laws of development are at work, and there is a gradual and ever-accelerating downfall of the moral and mental faculties. The conscious of what at first was a mental revolt becomes sheer indifference, and sheer indifference deepens into a positive delight in the inharmonious and the horrible. The ethical and æsthetic discrimination of the miserable victim having become a nullity, the insidious and sinister influences of an apparently harmless inanimate object advance with ever-increasing strength towards the dethronement of the Reason itself. In the meantime, the widening circles of this Maelstrom of Unharmony (now seen to be synonymous with mental and moral Evil) have engulfed those innocent beings who fondly imagined that they could remain mere onlookers of the ruin of another. And in the midst of this Carthage of ruin, that wretched piece of furniture frowns its baneful satisfaction at the widespread disaster that has emanated from it. And who, in thus viewing common life in its relation to *Æsthetics* (properly so called), can fail to observe not only that this example is no isolated exaggerated instance, but that all finer and subtler feelings are, in this age of sophisters and economists, becoming things of the Past? Will we then, shudderingly, turn from the contemplation of the wretched Present, and live merely in devotion to an ideal; or will we not rather attempt to redeem our own age from its self-destruction? The humanity of the FREDERIC HARRISON School is an idle dream; Harmony, Fitness, Congruity—these must be the watch words of the new Reformation, which will at last recognize the influences of Furniture, as such, on both the Pure and the Practical Reason. Truly it is a matter of amazement that, in this Positive age, no one has yet dealt with the practical aspects of this great question, or, in other words, given us a complete manual of the Ethics and Soteriology of Harmony.