

ments the Declaration of Rights was adduced as the best example of a constitutional measure, and so far as the subjects go which it embraces, may be accurately defined as a proper and technical written constitution. In that of the United States of America there is an embodiment of the principles contained in the enactments of the mother country, being in the lecturer's opinion an almost unique example of a government directed by prescriptive usage. The law-making power of Congress as modified by the decision of the judiciary which has the power to determine the constitutionality of a bill; the relations of the several States to the Union and to one another were considered in as far as relevant to the subject of discourse. A comparison was made between the constitution of the United States and the British North America Act—our constitution—which determines the relations of the several provinces to the whole body in the same way as the federal charter of the U. S. does for the individual States.

The general conclusions reached might be summarized by the following pertinent queries;—granted that each generation is best capable of judging of its requirements, seeing that their predecessors are in the vast majority of cases unable to forecast the various factors that compose succeeding national life, what reason can be assigned for present legislation to be hampered by dogmatic principles of government which may be at variance with the true and liberal growth of the people? And if in each state there are men skilled in legislation and state-craft, why does the anomaly exist of permitting a body composed of such men to enact laws concerned with matters of minor import only, while questions assuming a greater range are left practically to the decision of the mass?

The lecturer enjoyed the closest attention, and at the close was greeted with hearty applause.

Wit is a magnet to find wit, and character to find character.—*Emerson.*

PERSONALS.

H. H. Wolton, '81, is engaged in the study of medicine in Brooklyn, N. Y.

J. A. Bayzant, a general in '82, has graduated in medicine from a Baltimore medical college.

Rev. R. H. Bishop, '78, is the esteemed pastor of the Baptist church, Freeport, Digby County.

H. R. Wolton, '83, will commence the study of law in the office of Hon. Edward Blako, Toronto.

S. H. Cain, at present studying at McMaster Hall, engages in mission work during the coming summer in the North West.

B. Rand, '75, of whom mention was made in the last issue of the *ATHENÆUM*, has returned from Germany much benefited in health by the outward voyage.

S. M. McVane, '65, has an article in a late number of the *Nation* on "The Prospect of a Premium on Gold." Mr. McVane is assistant Professor of History at Harvard.

Walter Barss, '80, graduates this year from Rochester Theological Seminary. Mr. Barss enters upon his first pastorate in Victoria, B. C. The Baptist church there being the only one in that distant province.

H. A. Longley, son of the late Avard Longley, Esq., and for two years a member of '85, is at present in the office of the Minister of Railways, Ottawa. Mr. Longley joins the survey on the Canada Pacific Railway in the capacity of an articled pupil to a deputy land surveyor, and will in the course of a few weeks be locating curves among the Rocky Mountains.

Young men, you are the architects of your own fortunes; rely on your own strength of body and soul. Take for your star self-reliance. Inscribe on your banner "Luck is a fool, Pluck is a hero." Don't take too much advice, keep at the helm and steer your own ship, and remember that the art of commanding is to take a fair share of the work. Think well of yourself. Strike out. Assume your own position. Put potatoes in a cart, go over a rough road and small ones go to the bottom. Rise above the envious and the jealous. Fire above the mark you intend to hit. Energy, invincible determination, with a right motive, are the levers that move the world.—*President Porter.*