THE VARSITY

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University of Toronto, February 24, 1891.

No. 17

Editorial @omments.



HE meeting of the Literary Society on Friday evening was the first of the important meetings that always presage the close of the year and the near approach of examinations. The Executive Committee having resolved, the

society concurring, to hold the annual elections on the evening of March the 20th, there will be only four more meetings of the society; two of these will be devoted to nominations and elections, one to discussion of the franchise and membership clauses of the constitution and the other to general discussion of the constitution and reception of reports from the different committees. Thus as far as the literary programmes are concerned the work of the society for the year is done; the remainder of the year will be given up entirely to the business that always accumulates at this time. The last meeting deserves attention.

The adjournment of the Mock Parliament was a fitting tribute to the memory of the late Lieut. George A. Badgerow, a fellow student and a member of the society. The resolution of condolence, which was carried by the silent yet unanimous vote of the large number of students present, was but a feeble expression of the sorrow that every member felt. Had it been at any other time of the year the business as well as the literary part would have been adjourned, but the pressure of some very important business rendered the action impossible.

The resolution of Mr. Donald, moved in the latter's absence by Mr. McLaren, authorizing a grant of fifty dollars to the Glee Club, aroused considerable warm, and at some stages acrimonious, discussion. It has been the Chet. custom of the society to make a grant to the Glee Club each year on the ground that the club rendered very important services to the society at the Conversazione, at the Public debates and at the ordinary meetings of the society. There being no conversazione this year, the Glee Club has not had the opportunity of doing as much for the society as it has done in the past years, and this has probable. The led to a partial neglect of the society's interests. The prevalent opinion, though not very strongly expressed, seemed the society Seemed to be that the Glee Club had treated the society with somewhat scant courtesy during the past year, and that that their services had been rather meagre. Notwith-Standing this, most, if not all, present were willing to make the grant this were not sufficient the grant even if the services of the club were not sufficient to Warrant it, but they wished to know if the finances of the club demanded it; this alleged interference in the Private affairs of the club excited considerable feeling on the part and pot help their the part of its members which certainly did not help their case. case. The statement of the society's finances almost took away the breath of most of the members, and rendered the possibility. The possibility of the grant being made rather doubtful. The Rociety has been dealing out money with a lavish hand this year, and the low ebb at which our own treasury is admonishes us to call a halt. The grant to the Glee Club will come up again on Friday, the 6th, and in all probability will be made. The Varsity wishes to join with one of the speakers in expressing the hope that the day is not far distant when every organization around the college will depend entirely on itself, and not expect aid from the Literary Society.

The action of the society in the matter of an Athletic Association will no doubt result in such an association being speedily formed. The interest taken in athletics by all men in college is a very pleasing sign and an augury for success in the future. At the same time care must be taken that the support of athletics does not fall on the Literary Society but on this Athletic Association, and it might have been advisable for the society to have informed itself as to what the authorities would do in the matter of the dollar fee collected from the students before pledging itself to take athletics under its wing. But we apprehend no difficulty in the matter, and have no doubt but that next year athletics will be placed on a sound and safe basis.

We have received a communication from H. R. Moore, B.A., on the subject of the medal in Physics. Mr. Moore belongs to that class "whose only fault," he writes, "was that too many of them were fortunate enough to secure first-class honors and concerning which class Mr. McKay stated in a letter that he was willing to declare it to be the best he had ever examined." The letter merely describes the steps taken by the writer to obtain some satisfactory reason for what he, in common with so many others, considers an injustice, and as they are almost identical with those so clearly stated in Mr. Chant's letter, the publication of Mr. Moore's letter would be but to repeat the substance of what has already been said. As for ourselves the discussion on the subject will close. The Varsity has done its duty in laying bare the facts of the case as far as it lay in its power, but all must admit that the argument has been entirely on one side. That this has been so has not been the fault of The Varsity, as its columns have been open for the presentation of the other side of the case. Are our readers to conclude that there is no other side, that justice is all on the side of those who have used this journal to state their position? This much has been shown, that the College Council offered a medal in Physics, that four students took high first-class honors (we have been informed on good authority that some, if not all, took over ninety per cent.), that notwithstanding this no medal was given, that in view of the high stand taken the words "not awarded," on the Convocation list, were monstrously unjust, that the College Council virtually acknowledged their error by asking Professor Loudon to award the medal after their attention had been drawn to their mistake and that now they still refuse to do what is their duty to do, award their own medals. We make no further comment; the graduates and undergraduates of the University can form their own conclusions.