

Among the numerous musical events occurring at this time of the year, the concert given recently in the Jarvis Street Baptist Church, under the direction of Mr. Edgar R. Doward, is especially worthy of comment. Dr Stainer's sacred cantata, "St. Mary Magdalen," was presented by a chorus of 75 voices to an audience which filled the church to its utmost capacity. The exquisite beauty of the softer passages is the great merit of the work. The *fortissimo* passages seem to lack the power of a great creation. In the interpretation of the former the chorus distinguished themselves, evincing thorough training and a careful appreciation of the lights and shades of the music. The first part is fortunate in having in it the three most attractive numbers of the work: "Ab, woe is me!" "Happy art thou, Magdalen," and "Come, ye sin-defiled and weary." The libretto is good, and in some instances, notably in the chorus "Come, ye sin-defiled and weary," poetical and musical. The solos were carefully and artistically sung by Mrs. Bradley (soprano), Miss Palen (alto), Mr. Richards (tenor), and Mr. Warrington (bass). A miscellaneous concert followed, in which the above artists were assisted by Miss Patterson. Mr. Doward is to be congratulated upon the fine singing of the chorus and for the able manner in which he discharged his onerous duties as organist and conductor.

An ingenious letter appeared the other day in the *Mail* over the pen-name "Liberal." The letter purported to be a reply to Mr. Kingsford's recent communication to the same journal, in which a severe reflection was incidentally made upon the manner in which the recent new chair in University College was created and filled. "Liberal" misses the main point at issue and launches forth into a eulogy of the Oriental languages and literature as a means of liberal culture. With his remarks as to the capabilities of the subject in this respect we readily agree, although it is to be remembered that as yet Orientals have been taken in University College only as a professional subject. But this is not the question at all. Whatever may be the merits of Hebrew as a liberal study, there can be no question that the claims of Political Science and English upon our attention are incomparably greater. Hitherto these claims have been shamefully neglected. The University Senate recognized this defect and made provision for a reform. The Senate were officially informed that the changes agreed upon could not be carried out for lack of funds. Yet, in spite of the resolutions of the Senate, and notwithstanding the alleged lack of funds, an entirely new position was created for which neither the Senate nor any other body had openly asked. This looks very much like machine management somewhere. And what the graduates of Toronto University and their representatives on the Senate want to know is who runs this machine. They will not be diverted from pressing this question by the raising of side issues.

The Rev. Dr. Abbott E. Kittredge, pastor of the largest Presbyterian church in Chicago, is being sued for \$27,000 damages because he had the manliness and courage to denounce the vice of the city and the gross laxity which characterizes the administration of justice there. The occasion which called forth Dr. Kittredge's denunciation was a shameful miscarriage of justice in the case of some noted gamblers. The justice who let them go has entered the suit for damages. We understand that Dr. Kittredge is warmly supported by his congregation and that the trial will be particularly lively. This case is one which we think calls for comment, as we are of opinion that in questions which concern the moral welfare of the community the Church has a right which it is bound to exercise,—to criticize, direct and, if need be, denounce. There is more need of preaching morality in these days than there is for harping on denominational strings. We do not mean to be misunderstood in this matter. We do not advocate the churches or even individual ministers becoming political machines or agents.

The pulpit should never be turned into a hustings. But upon social and moral questions the minister of God is doing no more than his duty when he denounces violations of the moral code and the maladministration of justice when it affects the social and moral well-being of the community. Those who know Dr. Kittredge are assured that he has not made his charges upon insufficient evidence. We wish him every success, and tender to him an assurance of sympathy and respect.

Last Tuesday evening a meeting was held in the Canadian Institute which, it is to be hoped, will inaugurate a new era in the profession of Civil Engineering in Canada. The meeting was convened by Mr. Allan MacDougall, to whom great credit must be given for his energy in this affair. About twenty-five members of the profession were present, including Prof. Galbraith, Kivas Tully, Messrs. Gibson, Stokes and Spry. There were also several graduates of the School of Practical Science present. The object of the meeting was to discuss the advisability of having the profession a closed one, and to form an association among Canadian engineers similar to existing ones in Great Britain and the United States. The opinion of the older engineers assembled was against making the profession a closed one, though all were in favor of the formation of an association. This was accordingly done, and a committee appointed to draft a constitution. Mr. MacDougall will endeavor to hold meetings in Montreal and Quebec early next month, and it is to be hoped that before long an institution will be formed containing among its members the leading minds of the profession in Canada. That the School of Science men will take a keen interest in its affairs may be surmised from the interest and enthusiasm manifested in their own Society. As it is at present, a civil engineer is as much recognized in the eyes of the law as a bricklayer or a plasterer, though not so much so as a plumber. It seems strange that, although the other professions, Law, Medicine, Pharmacy and Land Surveying, are closed ones, and have recognition in the eyes of the law and of the public, Engineers do not wish to have themselves put on an equal footing.

It is admitted on all hands that the Literary Society has reached what must be a crisis in its career. If Party did not kill the society it did worse than that. It destroyed its usefulness, and encouraged false aims and unworthy associations. This we clearly see, for, this injurious stimulating spirit being removed, the venerable structure sinks into helpless and rapid decay. But how restore it? The answer is easy to find. Try to place again before it its old-time aims, and arouse again that feeling of loyalty to our institution whose interests ought to be those of every undergraduate. But to be more practical. The "Literary" Society. Wherefore "Literary"? In past years what have members done to make it deserve that title? The Modern Language men, not finding what they want at the "Literary," have started a Literary far more worthy of the name. From the latter comes a suggestion which bids fair to be the very medicine required by the Literary Society. It has been suggested that the Modern Language Club hand over to the Literary Society their English meetings, and devote their time exclusively to the other languages on their course. The Modern Language men for the most part feel that under proper management the English meetings, which have been held with such marked success this winter, would awaken even more wide-spread interest if held on Friday evenings by the Literary Society. They feel that they have undertaken too much, and that where the English meetings have been in every way satisfactory, the German meetings have been quite the contrary. More time is needed if students are to become practically acquainted with the French and German languages, and to gain this time the majority of the members are, we judge, willing to relinquish the most attractive part of their work. Whatever difference of opinion there may be as to the advisability of the Modern Language Club making the proposal, there surely can be none as