

# The Varsity

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BY

THE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

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JANUARY 19, 1892.

## LITERARY SOCIETY.



THE Literary Society held its regular meeting on the evening of Friday, the 15th inst. The attendance was fair, especially when we consider that, through the carelessness of some one, those who were punctual were forced to stand upon the front steps of the building, until one of the more athletic members gained entrance through the window, and allowed the shivering enthusiasts to enter.

There was considerable business of importance transacted. The General Committee reported (1) That the meetings of January 29 and February 12 be devoted to the Mock Parliament; (2) That Mr. Gormally, second year representative from the School of Science, had failed to attend the meetings of the Executive; (3) That on account of the Glee Club Concert, on Friday, February 19, no meeting be held on that night; (4) That the meeting of February 5 be devoted to a consideration of the constitution. This report was adopted, and the office of second year representative from the S. P. S. declared vacant.

The Literary Programme was introduced by two excellent instrumental duets by Messrs. F. A. and J. L. Murray. Mr. B. A. C. Craig followed with a reading which was rendered in his usual good style. The essayist Mr. Chrysler failed to materialize. The debate was: *Resolved*, "That Ministers of the Gospel are justified in

taking part in Politics," and the leaders were to have been Mr. Griffith and Mr. Hellems. By some slight misunderstanding Mr. Griffith was also an unknown quantity, and in order that the debate might not fall through the question for discussion was reversed, Mr. Hellems undertaking to prove that ministers are *not* justified in taking part in politics. The negative at the request of the President was assumed extemporarily by Mr. Wheaton.

Mr. Hellems claimed that the work of ministers is essentially the salvation of souls, and that any mixing in of politics would impair their efficiency in that work. He said that history shows wherever the clergy have interfered in politics, they have detracted from their power in spiritual matters, and that interference of ministers in politics caused dissensions in their congregations.

Mr. Wheaton on the negative maintained that the ministers should lead the people in spiritual and moral things, and as politics were inseparably connected with the spiritual and moral welfare of the people the ministers should take part in them. He submitted that every Christian man should endeavor to make his influence felt on all questions affecting public interest.

The debate was continued on behalf of the affirmative by Mr. Craig and Mr. Moss, and on behalf of the negative by Mr. McCraney and Mr. McMillan.

After a summing up by the President, who occupied the chair, the question was left to a vote of the meeting, which declared by a majority of one that the affirmative had failed to prove that ministers were not justified in interfering in politics.

A report was read from the Committee on the Revision of the Invitation List, which was adopted with two slight alterations

Mr. Jas. Robertson and Mr. Walter J. Francis were nominated to fill the vacancy of 2nd year representative from the S. P. S.

Mr. McArthur and Mr. Robertson were elected as 1st year representatives on the Executive.

Mr. McMurchy moved, seconded by Mr. Lamont, that Mr. J. W. Henderson, the President, Mr. Irwin, and the Rec.-Sec'y, Mr. Wheaton, be a committee to frame a resolution of condolence with the parents of the late J. A. Sparling, and forward the same to them on behalf of the Society.

Mr. McMurchy moved, that Mr. Irwin, the President, Mr. Perrin and Mr. Wheaton be a committee to frame a resolution expressive of regret at the death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, and to forward the same to the Governor-General. Both of which motions carried.

The next regular meeting of the Society will be held in the large Assembly Hall of the School of Practical Science, next Friday evening, Jan. 22nd, it being the occasion of the Inter-collegiate Debate, with representatives from McGill University. Subject of debate: *Resolved*, "That the Effects of the French Revolution of 1789 have been Beneficial." Affirmative—F. E. Perrin and J. A. Cooper, representing University of Toronto; Negative—W. H. S. Kollmyer and W. J. Messenger, representing McGill University, Montreal.

O. P. Edgar, '92, will give an essay on Walt Whitman, and W. H. Pease, '94, will recite the speech made by Hayne before the U. S. Senate, to which W. P. Reeve, '94, will reply by giving that of Daniel Webster. Music supplied by the College Glee Club.

Prof. Alfred Baker will take the chair at 7.30 p.m. Censors in the hall: G. E. McCraney, '92; F. C. Brown, '92; R. W. Thomson, '92; F. B. Hellems, '93; K. D. McMillan, '93; F. D. Fry, '94; F. W. E. Wilson, '95.

Woodcock, the famous pitcher of Brown University, has signed a contract with Pittsburgh for next season.

By a misprint in this column we gave Wellesley 100 students instead of 700. We hope the friends of this institution will forgive us this serious blunder.