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*** The first volume of Professor Wendt's work is now in the press. The Author—who is an excellent English scholar—is carefully revising the English Translation, and has written a special Preface for it.

Two important reviews of the German original have already appeared in English magazines—one by Prof. Iverach in the *Expositor* (Sept. 1891), the other by Prof. Dickson in the *Critical Review* (Oct. 1891); and Principal Harper gives an excellent summary of the latter in the *Old and New Testament Student* for December. He says:—"It is unfortunate that this highly valuable work is accessible as yet only to readers of German, but it will, no doubt, soon be translated. Prof. Dickson has not over-estimated its importance. It is another great contribution to the study of biblical theology." Prof. Iverach's testimony to the worth of the book is that "it is the most important contribution yet made to the biblical theology."

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Editorial Topics.

THE LITERARY INSTITUTE.

THE meetings of the Literary Institute during the current term have been of unusual interest and importance, the attendance has been exceptionally large, and the debates and essays decidedly above the average. It is gratifying to note this marked improvement, and to see that the men have a more lively appreciation of the benefits to be derived from a steady attendance, and an active participation in the affairs of the society. After due consideration, changes in the Constitution have been made, of which details will be found elsewhere. It is of the first importance that the meetings be well conducted, and to further this end, two vice-presidents have been added to the Council, who, together with the president, will act as chairman alternately, thus doing away with the old custom of having a different chairman at every meeting. The Institute sent two of its members to take part in a public debate at St. Stephen's Lecture Hall, on Nov. 21st, and on Friday evening, Dec. 2nd, the regular meeting of the society will be open to the public, those taking part in the programme having been specially elected for the purpose. It will be seen that the Council is an energetic one, and that it enjoys the confidence and respect of the Institute.

THE DINNER.

It is to be regretted that the number present at the Annual Convocation Dinner this year was not so large as on former occasions. We have abundant evidence to show that this was not caused by any decrease of interest in the great annual function. The chief cause of the diminished numbers was the unfortunate and wholly erroneous notion which was entertained by some of the authorities that graduates who were not members of Convocation were not permitted to attend. Another cause was the want of energy, and the ineffective organization which characterized both the Convocation Committee and the Finance Committee of the students. It is the special province of these two committees to take due care that the attendance of guests is as large as possible, and it is very apparent that the necessary care was exercised by neither committee. In other respects the dinner was really a brilliant success, perhaps the most brilliant we have ever had. The changes in the toast list suggested by THE REVIEW were acted upon in every particular, and proved eminently acceptable and successful. The speeches were short and to the point: many of them were uncommonly bright and witty; and not one was dull.

ABOUT PREACHING

A SPEAKER at the Convocation dinner referred to the superiority of extempore preaching over preaching from manuscript. The attention of a congregation is secured by a spoken address much better than by a written address, and for most congregations the spoken address is the proper one. There are, however, congregations as there are occasions and subjects which demand the greater precision of a written sermon, and written sermons can be rendered effective by the manner of their delivery. It is not alone the practice of reading sermons which has caused the pulpit to fall into general disrepute, and suggested the inquiry whether on the whole