

# THE 'VARSITY:

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF

EDUCATION UNIVERSITY POLITICS AND EVENTS.

Vol. IV. No. 23.

Apr. 19, 1884.

Price 10 cents.

## THE SENATE ELECTION.

It has only been of late years that the election of the representatives of Convocation to the Senate of the University has aroused any interest among the graduates at large. The fact that such interest does now exist to no slight extent, is indicative of good, in several directions. It shows a marked spread throughout the country, of acquaintance and sympathy with University matters, among a class hitherto characterized by an almost hopeless indifference. It shows that the efforts towards awakening an enthusiasm among our graduates, at first the work of a few, but now of many, have been by no means in vain; and that Convocation is beginning to realize the importance it may attain to, and the influence it may acquire, in University government. Graduates seem only now to be arriving at a clear realization of the fact, that if their opinions and deliberations are to have any weight, it must be by their expression in the Senate by the delegates sent there for that purpose; and to this it is owing that men better known and better recommended are being nominated, and that the number of votes polled is largely increasing from year to year. We venture to say, that this year, more ballot-papers by far will be sent to the Registrar than ever before.

There are at present before the graduates the names of six gentlemen seeking election, from whom it cannot be difficult to make a good choice. We will shortly state, so far as we know, the claims several of these have to the support of their candidature.

PROFESSOR LOUDON'S election is looked upon as a foregone conclusion, and so we hope it will prove to be. The Senate has, during the past few years, had much important business under its attention, and many questions of an original nature demanding discussion; and during these years no member of that body has shown more interest in all matters dealt with, more persevering and conscientious devotion to his duty, and more liberality in the mitigation or abolition of abuses, and the proposal or introduction of improvements, than Mr. LOUDON. The quiet, unassuming manner in which all his work is performed, may probably have prevented his name being as continually before the public as the names of others whose actions have been by no means in proportion to the publication of them abroad; but all who know anything of the Senate and Council, bear testimony to his indispensable usefulness, particularly in the exercise of a faculty too rare among our authorities, a genuine business ability and carefulness; and we are glad to think that there is little doubt of his re-election.

MR. KINGSFORD deserves a most liberal support. For many years he has devoted himself unsparingly to the promotion of University interests; and he has done more than any other towards arousing a due enthusiasm among his fellow-graduates, and in bringing about the present thorough organization of Convocation. If elected, as we hope he will be, his attention to his duties as a senator will, we are assured, show care and ability.

DR. THORBURN has been a long time on the Senate, and in him the medical graduates consider themselves (as Mr. OLDWRIGHT'S letter shows) well represented. Among the graduates, in both Medicine and Arts, he will no doubt receive a large vote.

MR. McMURRICH is well known to University men, particularly to those of the Natural Science Department, as the donor

of the McMurrich medal, and as a former president of the Natural Science Society.

MR. COYNE has the advantage of being the only nominee from outside this city; and a country representation is certainly desirable. MR. COYNE has of late shown himself an able and useful member of the Executive Committee of Convocation, always ready to do his duty; and his chances of election are certainly good.

OF MR. CROMBIE, little has been heard of late in University matters. In former days, we are told, his interest in such matters was deep and active; and his seeking election, after so long a lapse of time since graduation, shows a readiness to work conscientiously if elected a member of the Senate.

When so many good men are brought forward, let not our graduates be in a position, after the results of the election are announced, to exclaim, 'To have so many to choose, and to choose so badly!' It is most important, particularly at the present juncture, that the representatives of the graduates should be men who can be depended on to work with ability and conscientiousness. We have said that we believe the vote this year will be the largest yet known. We believe, also, that this vote will be widely representative, and carefully given.

## Editorial Notes.

The prospects of Tennis are good for the year. Two clubs have already been formed, a graduate and an undergraduate one, and the ground is being got into condition for play. When latent possibilities become developed, we may be in a position to consider the proposition of the *McGill College Gazette* for an Inter-University Tennis Match.

An endeavour is being made by the Mathematical and Physical Society to found a scholarship in their department in the Third Year. With a view to raising the necessary funds, the society is circulating a letter among graduates stating the case and asking for subscriptions. What success has been met with hitherto we are unable to state, but there is little doubt that the amount can readily be obtained from Mathematical graduates alone. A copy of the letter will be found in another column.

The results of the recent competition for essayists for the Society's prizes, won by Messrs. D. J. McMurchy and Fred. H. Sykes, clearly demonstrates an age-worn yet true maxim, viz: 'Practice makes perfect.' The successful competitors, as indeed all the other candidates, have been most diligent and acceptable contributors in the 'VARSITY'S columns, so that the competition has not been between the members of the Literary Society as a whole, but between the 'VARSITY contributors. This being the case, it is patent to all that those who wish to cultivate and mature their styles of composition should take advantage of the columns of our College journal as affording at least one means for acquiring excellence in this particular