

The Varsity

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BY

THE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

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MARCH 8, 1893.

LITERARY SOCIETY



course you'll be at the Lit. to-night," was the innocent question that supplanted all other topics around the college corridors last Friday. Even such an interesting subject as the weather was "left out in the cold." Everybody was button-holing everybody else and telling him to be sure and be at the Lit.

At last the anxious day was over; the sun set, as it usually does, and the sable mantle of night fell upon the earth. The great appointed time drew near. Secretary Mackenzie's Waterbury timepiece marked three minutes to eight and he and President DeLury walked in solemn state to the platform and sat down—yes, they actually sat down.

For once the feeling appeal that appears from week to week on the back page of this journal had been responded to. "Everybody, seniors, juniors, sophomores and freshmen" had turned out. Sir K. D. McMillan honoured the occasion with a dress suit, a gleaming shirtfront, diamond studs and a white tie. Why not? It was constitution night, and it was but natural that as we assembled for the discussion of that glorious and mighty instrument by which our Society lives and moves and has its being, a thrill of reverential awe should tremble over our hearts, like a Kansas cyclone toying with boulders on a mountain side.

The Secretary read the minutes. He seemed overcome by the solemnity of the occasion. At times his words were inaudible.

Mr. S. J. McLean rose from his seat, and the piece of wrapping paper on which his notes were written trembled as he told the society of the burning wrongs and indignities which the constitution at present heaped upon the gentlemen of '96 and would heap next year on the

gentlemen of '97 unless it were amended. Mr. McLean thought that subsection (5) clause 1, art. xiii should be changed so as to read: "At the third ordinary meeting of the Society, in the Michaelmas term, two Councillors shall be elected from the first year, to act with the General Committee."

The Society thought it best to humor Mr. McLean and the gentlemen of '97; they passed the motion.

Mr. C. A. Moss moved that article II., section 5, be struck out and the following substituted: "No ceremony of nomination and election shall be necessary for admission to the Society, but all persons qualified for admission shall be considered as admitted and as in possession of all the rights of members in virtue of this qualification, without having to be elected members." The Society yelled "carried."

When the next motion came up several of those present proceeded to silently count the cash in their pockets. The motion was that article VI. be amended to read as follows: "The annual subscription shall be one dollar (\$1.00), if paid in the Michaelmas term, and one dollar and a-half (\$1.50), if paid in the Easter term," Mr. Boles' statesmanship is responsible for the measure. Mr. Walks wanted to clothe himself in undying glory at the expense of Mr. Boles and moved in amendment that the fee be only \$1 no matter when paid. The members seemingly felt rich enough to stand the extra 50 cents for they gave Mr. Walks' amendment the run and let the original motion stand.

Mr. Hendry introduced a motion under which debaters, essayists and other talented people who are required to take part at the Society's meetings will be notified before hand. The idea is such a novel and brilliant one that it was adopted without the slightest opposition.

The next motion was to provide that henceforth every voter at the general elections shall mark his ballot for himself instead of allowing the scrutineers to do so. Mr. Phillips who introduced the motion described the present system as abominable. Mr. Strath said this was all very well, but what about the man who saw two ballots instead of one. Mr. Brown also made a gentle kick, he thought no provision had been made for illiterate voters. Mr. McKinnon said this could be remedied by a special provision in the case of Mr. Brown. Mr. Brown subsided and the motion carried.

Mr. Phillips bobbed up once more, seconded by Mr. Skellen; he moved that in section 6, of article II., of the Constitution, the words, "until he has paid his fees for the year," be struck out and in their place be inserted, "unless he has paid his fees for the year at least twenty-four hours before the opening of the poll." Everybody spoke or wanted to speak on this motion. One gentleman thought corruption should be "sponged" from the Society. This was the way to do it. Mr. N. McDougall was surprised. He had seen no corruption at the last election. Mr. Stuart said Mr. McDougall was in the refreshment room all the time at the last election. The debate was continued for 48 minutes 34 seconds, during which time Messrs. Webster, Brown, Moore, McMillan, Barnum, Wicher, Coutts, Strath, Parker, Walks and Craig spoke. Some twenty or thirty others tried to speak, but did not catch the President's eye. We refrain from giving their names. The motion was lost.

Mr. Linglebach withdrew his motion restricting the membership of the Society to the male undergraduates and graduates of University College and the School of Practical Science. Mr. Moss said he was sorry. He looked sorry.

Mr. Linglebach's motion to make the subscription to Varsity \$1 if paid before Christmas carried.

The report of the House Committee, recommending a list of papers to be supplied next year to the reading room, was now presented by Mr. N. McDougall and caused considerable discussion. Mr. Stuart complained that the War Cry was not on file. Mr. Walks ventured to attempt