

On the 21st. inst., two representatives of the O. A. C. Literary Society meet in debate two representatives of Woodstock College. This "new departure" of the Literary Society has certainly many things to commend it. By engaging in debate with outside societies, a stimulus is given to literary work among the students. More than this, it brings us in touch with other colleges. For years there have been inter-collegiate debates between students of our best Canadian Colleges, and, considering the debating abilities of many of our students, why can we not enter these inter-collegiate contests, and carry off the palm? On the field of sport, our representatives have secured highest honors in inter-collegiate contests, and, with a fair chance, they should have equal success on the debating platform.

#### THE ORATORICAL CONTEST.

The Oratorical Contest, now an annual event, was held on Friday evening, March 14th, in the Gymnasium. Following is the report of the *Guelph Herald* of 15th inst.:

A large and delighted audience attended the Fourth Annual Public Speaking Competition, under the auspices of the O. A. C. Literary Society, on Friday evening. The Hon.-President of the Society, Mr. W. J. Rutherford, occupied the chair, and in a few gracious words introduced the programme. Interspersed with the orations were some choice musical numbers. Miss Hattie and Mr. Charles Kelly contributed a duet on the mandolin and guitar, which was rapturously encored. Miss Nellie Moore, always charming, delighted the audience with her song, "Gaily Chants

the Summer Bird," and was recalled. The vocal duet by Miss Kelly and Mr. Cutting was beautifully rendered. Mr. Chas. Kelly sang "Alone in the Desert," with impressive effect. The Darkies' Cradle Song, given by Messrs. Cutting, Stevens, Knowles, and Chas. Kelly, was heartily received.

The orations in the Speaking Competition numbered eight. The order of merit, according to the Judges' Report, was as follows:

Oration—"Man and his Place in the Universe,"  
A. B. CUTTING.

Oration—"The Progress of Liberty,"  
L. S. KLINCK.

Oration—"The Genius of Napoleon I,"  
E. G. DE CORIOLIS.

Oration—"A Canadian's Birthright,"  
H. W. HOUSER.

Address—"Canadian National Development,"  
W. D. ALBRIGHT.

Address—"The Secret of National Greatness,"  
J. C. READEY.

Address—"Imperialism,"  
R. E. GUNN.

Address—"A Canadian's Heritage,"  
J. M. MCCALLUM.

Each speaker was allowed 15 minutes. The judges' were:—Rev. T. J. Parr, M.A., H. McMillan, and J. P. Downey. Mr. A. B. Cutting, who won the prize, a handsome dictionary presented by Mr. Creelman, on behalf of the members of his class, gave a great oration on "Man and His Place in the Universe." Thoughtful, scholarly, philosophic, it was delivered with clear enunciation and an impressive nervous energy.

Mr. Klinck delighted his audience in his oration on the "Progress of Liberty." He has a fine presence, used beautiful language, and modulated his voice with good effect. Mr. E. G.