

During this session two appeals have been made to the Arts Society in regard to matters concerning the Concursus; one, an appeal as to jurisdiction, which led to the settlement of the question by a conference between committees of the Arts and Science societies; and the other, a charge preferred against a member of the court, which is at present being considered by a special commission. Previous to the remodelling of the court in 1894, an appeal was next to impossible, as it could have been made only to the senior year, whose interests and prejudices were almost identical with those of the court. Under the new order, the Arts Society forms a more representative and distinguished body for the hearing of appeals, but being so large and unwieldy, it is altogether unfitted for considering those appeals except through specially appointed committees. Questions of jurisdiction, which will tend to become more numerous in future, would require conferences between the societies concerned in each case, with the almost certain result of considerable friction and inconvenience. This is a difficulty the solution of which, we think, lies in the establishment of a superior court recognised by the whole student body and composed of fair-minded men representing all faculties, who have a more or less thorough knowledge of the spirit of college societies, as well as of their history, objects and methods. We would suggest, though it is a mere matter of detail, that seven would be a convenient number of judges, and that they should be apportioned as follows: Three from Arts, two from Medicine, and one each from Divinity and Science. To such a court could be confidently referred all disputed questions of law, as well as other matters which through time it might be found necessary to refer to a capable and representative tribunal.

* * *

The comet struck us on Monday, 24th ult. Suffice it to say that the reports in the daily press were not without colouring. Now that the collision is past, and the sore heads are mended, and the dust is laid, we anticipate a speedy return to average good feeling. The merry heart, the *bonhomie* of the student, "doeth good like a medicine," and is not hard to take. The row was a serious matter, no doubt, and had its *kittle* points which we cannot presume to solve off-hand. Let us not take it too seriously, however. If we had space and could stretch the orthodox, good form of editorial comment, we should quote Shakespeare's *Julius Cæsar*: "Are you not moved, when all the sway of earth shakes like a thing unfirm?" etc. We might also picture the frown of Kant when he heard of the bursting of the door of the philosophy room.

We gather from the testimony of one who can

strike a sure blow, that he who is in a hurry with his fists has very inadequate conceptions of life. The consensus of opinion seems clear on one point, viz., that the class of '98 was rash in resorting to physical force. Of course the year is young and full of energy and has not, we presume, perused Matthew Arnold's "Sweetness and Light."

On the other hand, we do not believe an influential class of students is moved without cause. The alleged grievance must point to some reform, whether it be amendment to the constitution or to the personnel of the Concursus. The matter is being fairly investigated, and legislation will follow in the line of the best interests of the student body.

We hope, too, that individuals in whose bosoms the complications of the disturbance have engendered ill-will or distrust toward their fellows will seek to put themselves in the other man's place; and that the ugly feeling which is one of the worst results of such conflicts may be reduced to as small a blotch as may be. Let us believe the best we can of one another. Not barriers between man and man, but bonds!

COMMUNICATIONS.

WE insert part of a letter received by Prof. Ross, from Mr. J. A. Claxton, who, along with Mr. A. C. Bryan, is spending the winter in Edinburgh, attending classes in the theological departments of the University, Free Church and U. P. Colleges:

"Perhaps the greatest profit gained is along the line of books. The theological world has, as it were, been opened out to us, and we have obtained exceedingly good books at very moderate prices. We have also become interested in the writings of some of the leading scholars through our personal acquaintance with them. Drs. Dods, Davidson and Orr are men of the very first rank—scholars, and, withal, men of deep humility and reverence for the sacred word.

We hope to go to Glasgow, shortly, and spend some weeks there, so that we may be able to hear some of the leading men in that city. Our aim here is largely of a practical nature. We are taking lectures, but we regard this as of minor importance, and try to get, as far as possible, a knowledge of men and methods. An interesting feature of the work here is the Sunday evening Bible Class in Free St. George's. The class is composed entirely of young men, and consists of some five hundred members, and has been held continuously for about twenty years. Dr. Whyte is at present taking up the study of representative men in other countries than our own. Thus far he has considered Pascal