

MISCELLANEOUS.

QUINTILIAN SOCIETY.

The election of officers of the Quintilian Society for the current half-year resulted in the choice of Mr. Ernest A. King, B. A., President, Mr. B. B. Smith, B. A., Vice-President, and Mr. H. Kittson, Secretary. The meetings have been regular and well attended. The reading of an essay precedes the debate. At a recent meeting was discussed the question: "Is a university more advantageously situated in town or in the country?" Mr. Burges and Mr. Hepburn were the leaders. Some of the arguments brought forward pro and con were briefly such as follow.

Affirmative.—A university is more advantageously situated in town. It is better appreciated and being surrounded by more influence derives greater favor and support. Public lectures and literary entertainments of various kinds, so beneficial to a student, take place far more frequently in a city than in a country place; besides, there is more opportunity of inviting to the halls of the college itself occasional lecturers or eminent literary strangers, whose presence and talent would be welcomed. Without these attendant advantages a university is not apt to be so well organized. As to the objection, 'There is more temptation': the age at which one goes to college should give him sufficient self-control. The temptation to be rakish and to spend time and money foolishly dies away after a short time, and probably less is squandered than by casual visitants. Having more contact with mind and with the world, and acquiring a larger circle of acquaintances the student is better able to study human nature and to find his own level in society. Some touching allusions were made to the more refining—because in town more extensive—influences of the gentler sex. One can more readily fall in with such as match his own temperament; and the recreation derivable from compa-

nionship is not to be got by exercise alone. There is less monotony and greater facility for the distraction—necessary in due proportion—from books. In town, students in theology, medicine and law can acquire an amount of good not generally to be equalled in the country, from contact with model preachers, model practitioners and model pleaders.

Negative.—A university is more advantageously situated in the country. It does not follow that because situated in a country-place it possesses less influence in its favour. Lectures enough will be received if the staff of professors is as large as it ought to be; and intercommunication is now-a-days so easy that 'literary strangers' can be got in from the towns they visit. *Too much* attendance is apt to be given to lectures, which do not bear upon the main objects to be pursued at college. It is undeniable, that one is open to 'more temptation' in town, and therefore is in greater danger. Living is more expensive, to which fact no 'tender allusion' has been made; and as to his 'larger circle of friends,' a man seldom has more than a few real friends, and he can't expect to derive much from mere street acquaintances. The 'circle of friends' and pleasure's many allurements are sure to 'distract' one *too much* from his 'books.' People generally go to the country because they find the town 'monotonous.' As for 'refinement,' the beauties of nature abounding in the country afford more ample scope for refining study. For the same reason the natural sciences, as botany, mineralogy, &c., can be pursued with greater facility. Recourse can be had to the works of eminent divines, doctors and lawyers from whom more may be learnt than from any living 'models' likely to come before one's notice. The weightiest consideration, inasmuch as life and happiness depend upon it, is *health*. The purer air of the country