

to say that Professor Bell fully approves of this revolt against the tyranny of Bismarck. And still another. Professor J. W. Wright, late assistant engineer of the U. S. Survey, and now professor of mathematics in Union University, New York, has just published a work which is being received with considerable favor across the border. The book is entitled, "A Treatise on the Adjustment of Observations with Applications to Geodetic Work and Other Measures of Precision." Professor Wright graduated from Toronto in 1863, and was at one time mathematical master in the Galt Collegiate Institute.

We lately called attention to the fact that Professor Loudon opposed the petition to the Minister of Education for increased graduate representation upon the Senate. The Professor appears to have been aggrieved by the publicity we gave to this action, and he does not seem to understand why his position on this important question should have met with the special disapproval of our graduates. We shall explain: Mr. Loudon sits on the Senate as one of the representatives of his fellow graduates. It is his duty in this capacity to further the wishes of his constituents. To oppose them is in effect to destroy the very ground upon which his title to the seat rests. A representative who does not represent is a contradiction in terms. If he cannot approve of the views of his constituents on great questions of University politics, then he is at liberty to resign, but until he does resign, it is not in good form for him to oppose them, either as an individual or in conjunction with an organized opposition body. But Mr. Loudon did not stop at opposing the will of the graduates, as shown by the resolutions unanimously adopted by Convocation, and embodied in the monster petition to the Legislature. He belittles the movement, and maligns those who took part in it. What does Mr. Loudon mean by calling Convocation "the machine"? It is certain that when Mr. Loudon seeks the suffrages of our graduates in the future it will be inconvenient for him to be called on to justify the expression. Mr. Kingsford, in his able letter to the city journals the other day, showed how utterly baseless were Mr. Loudon's insinuations. In any case, the epithet does not come with good grace from the gentleman who uses it, if ordinary university opinion is to be relied on. Mr. Loudon charges the graduates with exciting discord and fostering distrust within the walls of our national university. It seems to us that Mr. Loudon is on the wrong track here. It is only too evident that there is a feeling of distrust pervading our university at the present time, but the graduates did not originate it. In his reference to the deplorable state of affairs, Mr. Loudon ingeniously passes over the fact that the wishes of graduate representatives were entirely set aside in the recent creation of a new position in University College, and the further notorious fact that the quiet official delegation that waited on the Minister of Education, recently, did so for the very purpose of opposing the graduates. It ought not to be necessary to tell Mr. Loudon that such transactions as these are quite sufficient to excite among our graduates most positive fears regarding the future independence and welfare of our University, and to make them distrustful of any one who allies himself with their opponents at this critical juncture.

It is safe to say that in the history of the student organizations connected with our University, there was never an occasion which brought so many men together as the annual election of the officers of the Literary and Scientific Society on Friday, March 26th. The undergraduates were on hand in full force, and it is said that so large a graduate vote was never before polled. Notwithstanding the great interest which was taken in the course of the election, the most friendly feelings prevailed all round. Everybody seemed to recognize that it was simply a friendly struggle for positions which, after all, one set of candidates would fill as well as the other. The excitement was rather the natural outburst of repressed youthful spirits than the outcome of partisan feeling. Virtually the old

parties are broken up. This election produced what would have seemed to an old campaigner the most improbable alliances and divisions. The independent vote was large also, if we are to judge by the wide differences among the majorities. We congratulate Mr. T. C. Milligan and his associates upon their election to the honors and responsibilities of their offices. We feel sure that the highest interests of the Literary Society are safe in their hands. But the members of the society must remember that, however good may be the officers, they alone cannot make the society a success. The officers must have the sympathy and hearty support of all the members if a live society is to be maintained. Regarding the elections, some different plan ought to be taken for receiving votes in the future. Last Friday many members were unable to get their votes in even after waiting for hours for that purpose, and went home not at all pleased with the arrangements. One does not mind waiting a few hours, but waiting becomes exceedingly monotonous and wearisome long before six o'clock in the morning,—the hour at which the poll closed. There should be at least three or four polling-booths instead of one. The electorate could be divided alphabetically with a polling booth allotted to each of as many divisions as might be thought desirable. By this means the vote could be polled early and the results could be announced much sooner to the anxious candidates and party-leaders. We hope to see some measure of this nature adopted before another election. If it is necessary to change the constitution of the society for this purpose, the change should be made early in the year, while the memory of this last struggle is fresh in the crushed voter's mind.

## Leading Articles.

### OUR CRITIC CRITICISED.

One of our correspondents, Mr. Wrong, the Dean of Wycliffe College, calls us to account for our strictures on the authorities for the creation of the new chair in University College. Mr. Wrong's apparent justification of this proceeding compels us to go into details of the matter more fully than we have hitherto done. The university public will then be in a better position to judge between us and our censor. If Mr. Wrong can disprove in any substantial point the following facts he will then have some ground of complaint, if not, it would have been better if he had not been so hasty in his charges against us.

Since the University of Toronto and University College are practically maintained out of the same fund, which is all too small for their needs, it has been the custom for some years for the governing bodies of these institutions to come to a joint understanding upon any new project which entailed an increased expenditure. Thus when the new lectureships in Physics and in English, and the fellowships in other subjects were proposed, the Council and the Senate consulted on the advisability of the changes, and together decided upon them. And it was upon their joint recommendation that the decisions were carried into effect.

It was part of this same general scheme that the department of Romance languages should be put on a better footing. This change has been repeatedly postponed on the ground of a lack of money. An official statement was made to this effect, and yet, within a few weeks an entirely new position was created and a new salary voted, for which no one had publicly asked. Not only was the Senate not consulted on this matter, it was decided upon entirely without the knowledge of that body. The whole thing was done in the interval between two meetings of the Senate. It appears strange that the alleged need for an additional lecturer should be found out and acted upon so suddenly when other needs have had to be urged for years before anything was done.