

The Varsity

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY MORNING DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR, IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

BY

THE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

The Annual Subscription is \$2.00 a year, payable strictly in advance. Single copies, 10 cents. Copies of THE VARSITY may be obtained at Brown's, 445 Yonge Street, and P. C. Allan's, King Street.

All literary contributions and items of College news should be addressed to THE EDITOR, University College, Toronto.

All communications of a business nature should be addressed to THE BUSINESS MANAGER. Advertising rates can be had on application.

The office of THE VARSITY is at the corner of Spadina avenue and College street, rooms 3 and 5, Bank of Commerce Building.

Anonymous contributions will be published if approved by the Editor. This does not include letters to the Editor.

The Editorial Staff.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF - - - WALTER S. McLAY, '91.
BUSINESS MANAGER - - - G. HOWARD FERGUSON, '91.
TREASURER - - - WILLIAM H. BUNTING, '92.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

C. A. STUART, '91. A. P. NORTHWOOD, '91.
J. McNICOL, '91. C. H. MITCHELL, '92.
A. M. STEWART, '91. H. W. BROWN, '92.
S. J. ROBERTSON, '92.
J. W. EDGAR, E. E. HARVEY, School of Medicine.

The Directorate.

C. A. STUART, '91, Chairman. W. J. KNOX, '93.
J. McNICOL, '91. W. C. CLARK, '93.
A. T. KIRKPATRICK, '91. F. H. MOSS, School of Medicine.
J. A. McLEAN, '92. J. B. LOCKHART, '92.
S. J. McLEAN, '94. J. W. ODELL, '92, Secretary.

MARCH 3, 1891.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY.



LAST Friday's meeting was not any more pleasant than that of the week before. The Society was not very large but its temper was peculiar. The ominous calm in the early part of the meeting seemed to portend some unusual commotion; and when the storm did come, it came not in a breeze full and free, but in gusts and whirlwinds. It was a night of mistakes, of elections forgotten after nominations, of quibbling and counter-quibbling, of constitutional changes made in accordance with constitutional precedent and in violation of constitutional formality. The spirit of the constitution was there, a spectre of misty substance and indefinite outline that was wont to stalk about in old Moss Hall about the time of the death of winter.

The business of the evening was prefaced by part of a literary programme—a reading called "Memnon the Philosopher," given with distinct utterance by A. H. Burns, and a short essay on "Originality of Style" by W. P. Reeve.

Then Mr. Stringer introduced his motion of incorporation, which was seconded by J. A. McKellar. This encountered considerable opposition on the ground that it was not known what the effects of such a step would be on the members individually, and on the Society as a whole. On an amendment by J. McNicol and C. A. Stuart, a committee consisting of Messrs. F. E. Perrin, J. A. Cooper and J. A. McLean was appointed to learn the advantages and disadvantages of incorporation, and to report to the Society early next term.

And now came the amendments to the constitution.

Messrs. McNicol and G. H. Ferguson moved, That Art. I. Sec. 1 be amended to read as follows: "The Society shall consist of (a) male students in actual attendance in University College, or in the Faculty of Arts in the University of Toronto, or at the School of Practical Science; (b) male graduates or undergraduates of the University of Toronto in the Faculties of Arts, Medicine and Law; and the extent of class (a) shall be determined by the official lists of students registered as in attendance, and that of class (b) by the official lists of graduates and undergraduates." After the Society had satisfied itself as to the limitation in the membership made by this amendment, it was finally passed. But it was on the next amendment that the trouble arose. In accordance with the notice of motion given on the Friday before that an amendment would be introduced changing the wording but not the meaning of Art. II., Sec. 7, Mr. McNicol moved, seconded by Mr. Standing, that this section be changed to read as follows: "Every member who is a member of the staff in the Faculty of Arts, and every member who is included in class (a) of Art. I., Sec. 1, and who owes no fee to his College, may vote for all offices at the annual election; all other members may vote for the office of President only." At once the objection was raised that McNicol had not interpreted the section under consideration according to established precedent. The point was, should the section be interpreted according to precedent or according to the actual meaning of the words? It was C. A. Stuart who raised up the *Spirit* of the constitution and called upon the Society to do obeisance as their ancestors had done before them. Then did many do obeisance to the *Spirit*, and Ferguson and McLean sang its praises. But A. M. Stewart, Knox and McNicol regarded it not, and they refused to worship the beast; so into the fiery furnace went Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. The President's ruling was asked on the point and he ruled as the *Spirit* moved him, that is to say, that the motion was out of order. But the smoke that had arisen from the burning fiery furnace obscured the *Spirit* that had been set up and the Society forgot to worship it. Mr. McNicol's second motion got through somehow by a change in the first. In Art. I., Sec. 1, Clause (a) the phrase "in the Faculty of Arts in the University of Toronto" was changed to read "in the Faculties of Arts, Medicine and Law in the University of Toronto."

The report of the committee appointed a week ago to draft a scheme for an Athletic Association was then introduced by Mr. C. A. Stuart. It was received and adopted with two amendments. This amended report will be found in another column.

In accordance with the constitution of THE VARSITY, the nominating committee of the directorate for next year was elected, as this was the last Friday in February. The committee is composed of Messrs. G. H. Ferguson, J. O. Stringer, C. A. Stuart, D. Walker, W. S. McLean, J. A. McLean, W. H. Bunting, F. B. Hellems and A. R. Jackson. Owing to the lateness of the hour the same gentlemen were appointed the nominating committee of the five representatives from the Literary Society on the Athletic Association.

The following notices of motion were given:—

Mr. Ferguson—That a clause be inserted in Art. III., Sec. 1, giving two representatives on the General Committee to the School of Science.

Mr. Knox—That Art. VI., Sec. 1, be amended to read: "The annual subscription shall be one dollar."

Mr. McLean—That Sec. 6 of the Rules of Order be omitted.

Mr. Hellems—A motion to exclude the medical students from voting for undergraduate offices. That in Art. I., Sec. 1, Clause (a), the phrase "in the Faculties of Arts, Medicine and Law" be altered to read "in the Faculty of Arts"; and that in Art. III., Sec. 1, Sub-sec. (a), the words "and a councillor from the University of Toronto Medical College" be omitted.