

ence actually in attendance at lectures, alone should vote for undergraduate candidates for office. There was an opening of the flood-gates of eloquence. The downpour lasted over an hour. Messrs. Miller, Duncan, Bradford, Fraser, Cody, Ferguson, Aikins, J. A. Garvin, Robinson, A. M. Macdonell and Hunter were prominent in the fray. Nearly every other member of the Society endeavoured in vain to insert a word. Almost every speech began with the customary "It seems to me, Mr. President." Some of the speakers moved in regions of high and pure disinterestedness, and lofty, ideal loyalty to the Society. Gentlemen appealed to the constitution, to the chairman, to precedent, to the nine gods, to all that is holy and venerable,—with violent gestures. There was great facetiousness at times, sundry personalities and many merry jests. After half-past eleven the polling took place on a sudden. The amendment was carried by a vote of 169 to 75, a majority of 19 over the two-thirds required. The third clause of Mr. Young's amendment was referred to the General Committee. After a vote of thanks to the General Committee for arranging for the passage of the amendment through the College Council, the Society adjourned. President Milligan presided over a tumultuous and protracted meeting with admirable tact and firmness.

**HISTORICAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION.**—On Wednesday afternoon, the members of this Association had the pleasure of listening to an able and most interesting paper by Mr. Thos. Hodgins, M.A., Q.C., entitled, "An Unpublished Chapter in the History of the Cession of Canadian Territory to the United States." (Mr. Hodgins is an old graduate of our University, and, during his student days, was one of the originators of the present Literary and Scientific Society of the College, some thirty-four years ago.) The territory in question, and about which so much secrecy has been manifested, comprises the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan, and part of the State of Minnesota—that part of the (now) American territory lying between the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. This territory formerly belonged to the British, but was given up to the United States about one hundred years ago as "back lands" of the Dominion of Canada. The speaker presented to the audience the correspondence relative to the giving up of the land in question, characterizing the whole proceeding as "negotiations conceived in secrecy and consummated in disgrace." He showed the spirit which occasioned this immense loss of territory, pointing out the laxity of the British Government and the stupidity of the officers sent out here to settle boundary disputes. One of these arbitrators was described as representing the acquisition of Canada in 1763, as detrimental to the interests of Great Britain. Instances were cited to show how much better fitted to transact their own affairs Canadians are, in cases where territory or territorial rights are in dispute, than are foreign officials, who know little or nothing about the geography of the country, and less, if possible, of the political importance of any particular part of it. At the close of the meeting a very hearty vote of thanks, moved by Mr. Hume and seconded by Mr. Russell, was tendered to Mr. Hodgins for his kindness in delivering before the Association so interesting and instructive an address. A number of visitors were present.

The regular fortnightly meeting of the University College Natural Science Association was held in the School of Practical Science on Thursday afternoon, the President, W. H. Pike, Ph. D., in the chair. E. J. Chapman, Ph. D., LL D., delivered an address on "Underground Waters," giving an account of the origin of springs, and explaining the generally received theories of geysers and artesian wells. He then described the artesian wells in the neighborhood of London, Eng., and also some attempts made in Yorkville and near the Don to procure water by similar means, and pointed out the reasons of failure in the latter cases. At the conclusion of his paper—which was illustrated by numerous blackboard drawings and rock specimens—the speaker outlined a system of drainage much practised in England for clay soils, whereby the underlying strata of porous rock are made to serve as a natural receptacle for the accumulated surface-water of the fields. During the discussion which ensued, the President quoted an instance of a mine being drained of water by similar means. Dr. Ellis followed with an account of an artificial drainage system which imitated the conditions naturally obtaining in the two former cases. Mr. R. J. Hamilton then read a paper on "Nerve Force," being a synopsis of some work recently carried out on curarized animals, particularly the frog, cat and dog. After some discussion on this paper and on the points of difference between animal nerves and the so-called nerves of sensitive plants, etc., the Society adjourned.

At a meeting of the Glee Club held on Tuesday last, the following nominations were made for offices in the Society for the coming year:—Honorary President: M. S. Mercer, B.A. (elected by acclamation). President: J. E. Jones, F. B. Hodgins. Leader: N. Kent, J. E. Jones, N. Anderson. Secretary: E. A. Hardy, J. D. Spence, N. P. Buckingham, F. H. Suffel. Treasurer: R. J. Gibson, J. J. Ferguson. Committee, 4th year: F. H. Suffel, N. P. Buckingham, E. A. Hardy, J. A. Giffin, W. A. Bradey. 3rd year: H. S. Robertson, J. D. Spence, O. W. McMichael, H. W. C.

Shore, G. A. H. Fraser, H. F. Gadsby. 2nd year: J. H. Fawell, A. D. Thompson, J. O. Honsberger, W. C. Bremner, J. J. Ferguson. The annual meeting will be held on Tuesday next, at which the elections will take place, and the Treasurer's statement be made. A large attendance is specially requested.

The debate at the last regular meeting of the Trinity College Literary Institute shows a commendable interest on the part of the students in local affairs. The subject was, "Resolved, that the Fleming by-law lately passed by the City Council is prejudicial to the interests of the city." The affirmative was successfully championed by Messrs. Broughall and Houston. Messrs. McGill and Cayley upheld the negative side of the question. An essay on "Socialism" was read by Mr. Stephenson.

The same question was discussed in the Law Society at Osgoode Hall on Saturday night. Decision was again given in favor of the affirmative.

The Literary Society of the Toronto School of Medicine met on Friday evening as usual. Dr. McFarlane presided. A paper was read by Dr. W. H. B. Aikins on the germ theory. A number of specimens were exhibited and illustrations given. Dr. Ferguson delivered a lecture on magnetism and faith-cures. Nominations were received for officers for next term. Elections will take place at next meeting. A number of members were absent—presumably looking after their interests elsewhere.

The regular Thursday afternoon meeting of the Y. M. C. A., was conducted by Mr. L. E. Skey. The topic was "Witnesses for Christ," (Acts 1: 8.) He pointed out that all men must bear witness, either in favour of or against Christ. In order to bear a true testimony, men must have the power of the Holy Spirit. Many other instructive points were made by Mr. Skey and the speakers who followed him. The meeting next Thursday will be conducted by Mr. T. C. Des Barres.

The Mathematical and Physical Society held its regular meeting on Tuesday afternoon, the Vice-President, Mr. Duft, in the chair. The programme was opened by Mr. J. H. McGeary, M.A., who addressed the audience on the subject of Quaternions. The speaker thoroughly explained the basis of the subject, and showed the consistency of its fundamental principles. Mr. L. H. Bowerman, B.A., gave some accurate experiments in Acoustics, after which the solution of a number of problems was discussed by the members. A few interesting details of business were then transacted, and the meeting adjourned.

The Wycliffe College Literary Society held a debate on Friday evening in the library, on a question much talked of at present: "That it is the duty of the State to provide distinctively religious teachings in her educational system." A short programme preceded the debate:—Chorus, by the students; Essay, Mr. T. R. O'Meara; Reading, Mr. W. R. Johnson; Trio, Messrs. Miller, May and Acheson. Messrs. F. J. Lynch and C. C. Owen, B.A., then opened the debate for the affirmative, and were followed by Messrs. J. M. Baldwin, B.A., and R. Sims, in the negative. A spirited argument was kept up for about an hour and a half. The chairman, Chief Justice Wilson, left the decision to the audience, a majority of whom favoured the affirmative. After a chorus by the students and the singing of the National Anthem, the meeting dispersed. The attendance was large.

The election of officers for the Knox College Metaphysical and Literary Society was held on the evening of Friday, 4th inst. C. W. Gordon, B.A., the president, in the chair. After the preliminary business had been finished, J. A. MacDonald and D. G. McQueen, B.A., were appointed scrutineers, and voting began. The result was the election of: Pres., J. C. Tolmie, B.A.; 1st Vice, A. R. Barron, B.A.; 2nd Vice, D. Perrie; Critic, J. McD. Duncan, B.A.; Cor. Sec., E. B. McGhee; Rec. Sec., T. R. Shearer, B.A.; Treas., S. J. Pettinger; Sec. Com., W. J. Clark; Curator, G. W. Logie; Councillors, M. P. Talling, J. Gill, J. Gilchrist. The most important part of the voting, however, came last, namely, the electing of the editorial staff of the *Monthly*, which will very likely be changed into a yearly paper and be continued throughout the summer months. The editors elected are: J. McD. Duncan, B.A.; C. A. Webster, B.A.; W. J. Clark; W. P. McKenzie, B.A.; D. McGillivray, M.A.; J. J. Elliott, B.A.; Geo. Needham, B.A., Bus. Man.; W. A. Martin, Treasurer. The campaign on the night of Friday, the 4th, by no means ended the elections for this year. Tuesday, the 8th inst., saw the combatants again ready for the fray, and the following were elected as officers of the Missionary Society for the ensuing year: Pres., A. J. McLeod, B.A.; 1st Vice, D. McGillivray, M.A.; 2nd Vice, W. P. McKenzie, B.A.; Rec. Sec., A. E. Mitchell; Cor. Sec., Geo. Needham, B.A.; Sec. Com., P. J. McLaren; Treas., P. Nichol; Councillors: J. G. Shearer, J. S. Gale, M. C. Rumball, B.A., P. McNabb, A. G. Jansen. The elections for the Glee Club and for the Football Club have not yet taken place.

Alfred Russell Wallace, F.R.S., inspected the College buildings, Library, etc., in company with Dr. Wilson on Thursday morning.