It was resolved to hold a special student's prayer meeting on the day of prayer for students, which is annually observed on the last Thursday of January.

Monday, Jan. 29th.—The special service for young men on Thursday, 25th, was well attended. Prayer was offered for the students of Queen's, and for those of all other colleges. Mr. Somerville, delegate to Convention, gave a short talk about the work as represented at the Convention.

It is evident that the work of the Salvation Army will not interfere with the evangelistic services conducted by tne Y.M.C.A. every Sabbath evening in the Opera House. Last night the house was crowded by those who listened with intense eagerness to the earnest words of the speakers.

MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY.

THE meeting of the Mathematical Society, held on Friday evening, the 19th ult., was one of unusual interest. Professor Dupuis delivered a lecture on "Continuity," especially as applied to Mathematics. The subject, though somewhat abstruse, was treated in such a way as could not fail to be interesting even to those whose tastes were not at all mathematical.

The Professor first showed that the principles of continuity applied, not to mathematics alone, but also to time, Physics, Chemistry, &c. As an example, from the operations of nature, he showed the continuous action of the sun's heat.

With regard to mathematics, it was shown that the more simple geometrical figures were the limits of more complex and general ones, as mile-stones on a road are definite points separating the distances between. A straight line is one that is *continuous* in direction; a curve is one whose change of direction is *continuous*. Applied to the conic sections, the ideas were briefly as follows. The change in form from a circle to a straight line, back to a circle again, and finally to a point is continuous. Beginning with a circle of finite radius, if we imagine the centre to move away, and the radius to be thus lengthened, the arc approximates a straight line; and we assume that if the centre were at an infinite distance, the arc would actually be a straight line. Again, if we suppose the centre to approach the arc, the radius being thus lessened, and ultimately vanishing, the circle becomes a point. If we take a cone, and cut it by a plan at right angles of the arcs, at the very apex, the section is a point. As soon as the plane is moved towards the base of the cone, but still at right angles to the axis, the section is a circle, which is a special figure, since, if the plane moves in the least from this position at right angles to the axis, the section is no more a circle, but an ellipse, which is a general figure; for if the plan be moved so as to make a smaller and smaller angle with the axis, the section still remains an ellipse of varying form until the plane becomes parallel to the slant side of the cone. At this particular position, the section is a special figure, called the Parabola, which, like the circle has no variation in form, but

only in size. In all other positions of the cutting plane, not included in the foregoing, the section is an Hyperbola; (which is therefore a general figure) except when it assumes a pre-coincident with the axis of the cone, at which position the boundaries of the section are two straight lines which meet at the apex of the cone. Thus we have a constant gradation from the point through the Circle, Ellipse, Parabola, Hyperbola, to the straight lines, between any two of which there is no possible figure. The foregoing is only a very brief outline of a few of the leading points of the lecture, which occupied an hour or more.

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL.

THE annual meeting of the Council of Queen's University took place on Tuesday evening, Jan. 16th, the only strangers present being the Rev. Messrs. Lang and McGillivray. The first business taken up was the election of a Chancellor.

Mr. James Maclennan, Q.C., of Toronto, was nominated, but a telegram from him was read which stated that he declined to be a candidate for the position. Mr. Sandford Fleming was then nominated and declared elected unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. John McIntyre, Q.C., thanking Mr. Fleming for his generosity and munificence during the past three years. It was carried unanimously.

Mr. Fleming subscribed $5,000 to the Endowment Fund, and his contributions amount to over $500, besides books and valuable papers.

Prof. Williamson and Dr. Bell were appointed to draft a minute *in re* the deaths of Hon. John Hamilton and Mr. James Michie, of Toronto.

Messrs. R. V. Rogers, B.A., and A. P. Knight M.A., were appointed a committee to draw up a by-law fixing the date of the Council meeting for the nomination of future Chancellors.

The Council also appointed a committee to confer with the Alma Mater Society with regard to a banquet to be tendered to the Chancellor at the close of the present session, under the joint auspices of University Council and the Alma Mater Society.

Notices of motion were made :

1. Dr. Saunders—That no thesis be asked for medicals.
2. Rev. Mr. Lang—That alumni of two years standing have their names published in the calendar.
3. A. P. Knight—That the Matriculation Examinations consist of classics, mathematics and English, including history and geography.

The Council then adjourned.

"DID Mr.B——call in my absence, John ?" "No mum ! but Mr. Thank Heavens did, leastways when I told him you were out, and asked him what name to give you he said kind of low like, ' Missed her, thank heavens !' "

IT is rumoured that a gentlemen purposes erecting this summer, in the vicinity of the college, a mammoth boarding house, in which some hundred and fifty students may be accommodated.