

## Literary Institute.

The tenth regular meeting of the Institute was held on Friday evening, the third of February. Mr. Madill, B.A., was chairman.

After the usual business, Mr. Baldwin began the programme with a reading from Kipling. Mr. Miller was essayist, his subject being "Punctuality."

The subject for debate was—"Resolved, That the present condition of the world's affairs warrants disarmament." Messrs. Johnston, B.A., and Strathy spoke for the affirmative; and Messrs. Somerville and Richards for the negative. On the part of the affirmative speakers the subject was not treated as the resolution required; but they devoted themselves rather to the injustice of war, and the unnecessary and criminal expense caused by maintaining the large military force of Europe.

The negative speakers on the contrary advanced weighty reasons against the resolution; Mr. Somerville reviewed briefly the condition of several of the European States and showed that in hardly one case was the country prepared for disarmament: Mr. Richards pointed out the strenuous opposition made by the British and German press, and mentioned the difficulties which would face those who tried to carry out the awards of any court of arbitration.

The meeting however, gave the affirmative the decision.

Mr. Johnston, of the first year, who had not previously been introduced, made his first appearance at this meeting and was presented amidst considerable confusion.

Mr. Ryerson, B.A., the critic for the evening, made a more detailed and careful criticism than has been given for some time, and received a hearty vote of thanks for his services.

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The eleventh regular meeting of the Literary Institute was held on Friday evening, February 10th. In the absence of the President and both Vice-Presidents, the Secretary called the meeting to order, and proposed that Mr. Turley should preside; this met with the approval of the meeting, so Mr. Turley took the chair.

The readers were Messrs. Lucas and Nevitt, the latter acting as substitute for Mr. Hewetson.

Owing to the *Conversazione* having taken place on Tuesday of the same week, no debate had been set for this meeting; but impromptu speaking was appointed instead. Though the subjects offered a good chance for eloquence, few of the speakers were on their feet long enough to give the meeting a perfectly clear idea what their subjects were.

After the impromptu speeches were finished, Mr. Muckleston, who had been appointed critic earlier in the evening, made his report.

There being no further business the meeting then adjourned.

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The final debate of the Inter-College Debating Union was held on Friday evening, February 17th, in Association Hall. The council of the Literary Institute decided that no meeting of the Institute should be held in College that evening, in order that there might be a good attendance of our own men at the final debate. However, owing to other and, in some cases, less secular interests, there were only a handful of Trinity men present; those who did attend were well repaid, for the debate proved most interesting.

The contesting colleges, as mentioned in last month's REVIEW, were Knox and University College.

The chairman was Dr. S. Morley-Wickett, Ph.D., president of the Union, and of the Literary and Scientific Society of University College. The referees of the debate were Professor Goldwin Smith, Rev. Professor Clark, and Mr. N. W. Hoyles.

The chairman called the meeting to order shortly after

eight o'clock. The secretary first presented his report, giving the history of the formation of the Union, and an account of all debates already held during the year.

Dr. Wickett then addressed the meeting; he explained that this was the only meeting held by the Debating Union, all others being under the management of individual colleges. The Union, he said, had certainly been a success, although it had not accomplished all that had been hoped for. He offered a few recommendations to the Executive of next year.

The subject appointed for debate was—"Resolved, That the present unsatisfactory conditions obtaining in society are due more to defects of the social system than to individual faults."

Messrs. Robinson, B.A., and Eakin, M.A., of Knox College, spoke on the affirmative, and Messrs. W. F. McKay and Russell, of University College, on the negative.

The question is not one that can be decided absolutely for one side to the entire exclusion of the other. The negative's victory was due not to the want of eloquence or grasp of social conditions on the part of the affirmative, but to their own better skill in debate.

The affirmative pointed to the unnatural strain of competition in the world's market at the present day, and the frightful iniquities resulting therefrom, child labor, social degradation of the working classes, with the consequent wide spread ignorance and immorality; men, they claimed, have in a large measure the forming of their own characters and fortunes, but there is a point when human nature can no longer struggle against his environment.

The negative on the other hand urged individual fault as the cause of intemperance and immorality, and appealed to history to show the names and records of great men who rose superior to their surroundings. While admitting and deploring the evils of competition, they claimed that it was but an extreme application of the natural law of "the survival of the fittest."

The referees, retiring at the close of the speeches, after a short deliberation returned to announce their decision that the negative had won the debate.

There were a few musical numbers during the evening.

After the announcement of the decision the chairman adjourned the meeting.

This debate closes the work of the Inter-College Debating Union for the season 1898-1899, and leaves University College this year's champion of the Union.

THE REVIEW tenders its hearty congratulations to the victors.

### THE MISSION AT ST. MATTHIAS' CHURCH.

The Rev. Father Huntington commenced the preaching of the mission on Wednesday, Feb. 8th, closing it Thursday Feb. 24th.

Trinity men have from first to last taken the greatest interest in the services, a good representation being at nearly every service.

Of his addresses, what can we say? The ordinary words of praise would seem light and almost irreverent. The memory of those moving words with all their tremendous power, we trust will never die. He has been speaking of deep things—of life, death and judgment. We who have heard Father Huntington realize that he has been speaking to our hearts direct, and that he has left a mark upon Trinity men which time cannot efface—deeper faith, truer light and greater love for God, His Church and His Sacraments. This is the only praise that he would have, and these words that we believe find their echo in every man who has attended the mission.

The Rev. C. J. H. Mockridge, of Detroit, while in town during the early part of this week, paid a flying visit to the College.