

Miscellany.

DR. GILBERT PARKER'S LECTURE.

On Monday, October 23rd, Dr. Parker appeared in Association Hall, and for the first time in public he read selections from his own works.

The audience was not large owing to the inclement weather, but it was very representative and capably critical.

The proceeds of the lecture were given in aid of S. Hilda's College.

The gallery and platform were tastefully decorated with red and black.

For half an hour before the lecture, Mrs. Read, of London, England, entertained the audience with a piano recital; her renderings of selections from Godard, Schmidt, Chopin, Grieg, and Scharwenka were beautiful, and were received with great appreciation.

At 8.30 Dr. Parker made his appearance, and was greeted with "*Mēs ἀγῶνα*" sung by the Trinity undergrads in the gallery, who had turned out in force to greet their distinguished alumnus.

Dr. Body, of the Theological Seminary, New York, introduced him in a brief but complimentary speech. Dr. Parker began by remarking that he would say it was a particular pleasure for him to be there, were it not so obvious a fact. He trembled, however, in appearing before such an audience; they were his permanent and authoritative critics, and would know if what he spoke of the life in Canada was false or untrue. It was the first time he had read from his own books in any city or town of the Empire.

Dr. Parker then began his readings, which were all from a book that is to be published this spring, except the "White Swan" from "Romany of the Snows," and a selection from "When Valmont came to Pontiac," describing the meeting of Valmont and the old sergeant of Napoleon's guard.

His other readings were "The Absurd Romance of Petite Louizon," "The Marriage of the Miller," "Son of the Wilderness," and "The Man who Died at Alma." All his selections were delineations of French-Canadian character and incidents, except the last, which was Irish.

Dr. Parker, in spite of his protestation to the contrary, shewed himself to be a fine actor as well as an author. His readings included both the humorous and the tragic, and his rendering of them called forth enthusiastic applause from the audience at the end. His Lordship the Bishop expressed to him a hearty vote of thanks on behalf of S. Hilda's.

CONVOCATION

The Annual Convocation ceremony took place on the afternoon of October 24th and was one of the most interesting for years.

About 3.45 p.m. the members of Corporation, faculty, students and friends of the University proceeded to S. Hilda's College to take part in the formal opening and thus was witnessed the consummation of years of effort, on the part of those interested, to provide a college residence for women seeking higher education. After prayers by the Bishop the building was formally declared open. The doxology was then sung, and the procession started for convocation hall.

The students were in full force in the gallery, while the body of the hall was filled to overflowing by friends of the University.

While the members of Corporation, faculty and other dignitaries were taking their places on the dais, the students became very much in evidence and opened their programme by hanging Oom Paul in effigy, while "Rule Britannia" and "Soldiers of the Queen" were sung with great enthu-

siasm. The parodies, topical songs, etc., were very amusing and apparently proved quite entertaining to those present. Convocation is an occasion when the student becomes very familiar with the "don," generally at the expense of the latter, and this one was no exception to the rule.

Chancellor Allan presided and those present on the dais were:—President Loudon, The Bishop of Toronto, Bishop DuMoulin of Niagara, Dr. Langtry, Rev. Dr. Body of New York, Archdeacon Dixon, Rev. A. J. Broughall, Mr. Gilbert Parker, Dean Lauder, Mr. Jas. Henderson, Mr. Elmes Henderson, Dr. Worrell, Mr. D. T. Symons, Mr. Justice Osler, Mr. Wm. Ince, Mr. C. J. Campbell, Rev. T. W. Patterson, Archdeacon Bedford-Jones, Rev. C. H. Shortt, Archdeacon Bogert, Rev. C. L. Ingles, Rev. Canon Cayley, Rev. Canon Tremayne, Mr. Edward Martin, Q.C., Mr. C. E. Ryerson, Rev. G. C. Mackenzie, Dr. Nevitt, and the members of the staff.

Prayers were said by the Provost and then the degrees were conferred.

It is needless to add that the greatest interest centred in the conferring of the degree of D.C.L. on Mr. Gilbert Parker, the celebrated Canadian novelist and devoted son of Trinity. Prof. Huntingford presented him to the Chancellor in a well-chosen Latin oration, and when Mr. Parker stepped forward he was received with round after round of applause from the students.

Dr. Parker then replied, stating what great pleasure it afforded him to return to his Alma Mater and to receive this distinguished honour at her hands. He also said that it was impossible for him to escape the temper and spirit of the institution, and that while here he had received an inspiration, which to a great extent moulded his after life, and that his training here was in no small measure responsible for whatever success had attended his efforts. After showing the students that the opportunity was theirs also, he counselled them to make the best of it. He resumed his seat amidst another storm of applause from the gallery.

The Chancellor, in his closing address, congratulated Dr. Parker on his success in the literary world, and referred to the opening of S. Hilda's College, speaking very highly of the work of Mrs. Rigby in connection with that institution. Ex-Provost Dr. Body, who was present, spoke briefly and was warmly welcomed. The procession then filed out and the proceedings were ended.

CONVOCATION DINNER.

The Annual Convocation Dinner was held on the evening of Wednesday, October 25th, and was, as everyone will confess, a great success. While the dinner was going on, Glionna's orchestra discoursed sweetly in the gallery.

The first toast was, of course, "The Queen," which the Chancellor proposed in a stirring and patriotic speech; the National anthem was then sung and the toast drunk with great enthusiasm.

The next toast was that of "Trinity," which was proposed by Dr. Gilbert Parker. His speech was witty and amusing, but became more serious as he came to speak of the French-Canadians; he maintained that there were no people in the empire more loyal to their Queen, and compared them to the U. E. Loyalists. Mr. Jones, the new headmaster of T. C. S., was the first to reply to this toast. He testified to Dr. Bethune's grand work and said he had erected a monument to himself "aere perennius." Dr. Geikie then replied on behalf of Trinity Medical College; he referred in patriotic strains to the departure, that afternoon, of the Canadian contingent for South Africa. Finally the Provost replied on behalf of Trinity College. At the end of his speech he proposed the health of Messrs. Stewart Wilkie, R. H. Temple and Anderson, who have gone to fight against the Boers.