

**CLASSICAL AND PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY.**

The officers of this society for '95-'96 are as follows: H. C. Windell, President; C. D. Campbell, Vice-President; J. Wallace, Secretary; J. B. McDougall and K. P. R. Neville, Committee.

At the meeting of the society on Oct. 24th Prof. Nicholson read a very suggestive paper on "The Gods of Greece." He pointed out that, in seeking a clue to Greek mythology, we must remember that Greek civilization is indebted to Phœnicia, Assyria and Egypt; to the older civilizations of the east we must go for the solution of un-Aryan features. In origin the gods of Greece are of two groups, the Indo-European and the Asiatic. As in India the deities are almost all males, the increase of goddesses is due to Semitic influence.

The professor considered Greek religion as presenting three stages. The first stage is the worship of Pelasgian Jews. The gods were not as yet represented in human form. The second period is that of the Lycian, Hellenic or Pythian Apollo, the god of light, son and prophet of the most high Jews. His worship originated in Asia Minor and passed into Greece about the time of the Trojan war. The Homeric poems exhibit this stage. The gods were no longer half-conscious nature powers but beings endowed with moral liberty and other human qualities. They were the guardians of the moral order of the world and had a divine fluid-ichor in their veins. Examples of the helpfulness of philology in the study of comparative religions were given.

A hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Prof. Nicholson.

**PERSONALS.**

**R**EV. R. LAIRD, M. A., is now comfortably settled at Campbellford. "Bob's" experience as master-hand at the JOURNAL last session will enable him to turn out sermons by the square yard as fast as the next one. Our best wishes follow him. It has been whispered that his congregation have \$4,000 on hand as a manse-building fund. "First the cage and then the bird."

Rev. W. W. Peck, also a former editor of the JOURNAL, now attends to the spiritual wants of a Napanee congregation. The Napanee people know a good article when they see it. We are told that Wallace has become very devotional; been on his knees for several days—tacking carpets. What does all this mean? The weight of evidence seems to indicate that there is a power, not ourselves, which makes for —

One by one the graduates of last year are finding for themselves abiding places.

The Rev. T. J. Thompson, M.A., received a call to John street Presbyterian church, Belleville. We congratulate both pastor and congregation on such a fortunate settlement. With all sincerity we say of T. J., "May his shadow never grow less."

Rev. Mr. Carruthers, New Glasgow, N.S., lecturer on elocution in the Halifax theological hall, has been appointed Watkins lecturer on elocution in Queen's for the present session. Mr. Carruthers has been remarkably successful in handling this difficult subject, especially in the practical training of men.

We are glad to hear that the governors of Upper Canada College have secured the services of two of our distinguished graduates, Messrs. E. R. Peacock and G. F. MacDonell. We have no fear but that the energy and ability which our brethren displayed throughout their courses will ensure for them continued success in their present responsible positions.

We are pleased to note in the reading-room the excellent photo-engraving of our college building, placed there through the generosity of Mr. Mason, the artist. Graduates and other friends of the university can have copies of the same, 22 in. by 28 in. (in rolled covers), on remitting fifty cents to Mr. Wm. Mason, Bursar of the School of Mining.

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