

him after his grind. Then the weekly meeting of the Institute with its Essays, Reading and Debate, forms no small feature in the course of a College term. All old graduates will remember stirring scenes in the club of their day. Perhaps, there were two evenly divided parties in College, and a sudden attack would result in direful overthrow of the unexpectant Council, or perhaps, the Freshman Year arose, prompted by mischief loving seniors, and made a desperate snatch at equality of rights. In looking over the Constitution, one can see amendments and counter-amendments where these contests have been won and lost. In fact from the time when as a tyro he bows to the four corners of the room, and is voted amidst much chaff into the body of the hall till the evening, when he stands to deliver his valedictory, the Institute exercises no small influence over the improvement, the comfort, and the amusement of the undergraduate. Then the Institute at Trinity has a well-earned reputation for conversaciones every winter, and occasionally an open debate increases the attraction of the regular meeting.

As usual the first meeting this term was occupied by routine business. Resignations and reports were accepted and a new Council voted in as follows:—President, Mr. J. Gibson, B. A.; Treasurer, Mr. R. B. Beaumont, ('82); Secretary, Mr. A. Lampman, ('82); Curator, Mr. Oliver, ('83); Librarian, Mr. J. C. Davidson, ('82); Non-officials, Mr. T. O. Townley, ('82); Mr. W. Moore, ('83). The Freshmen were also voted members and admitted with the usual accompaniments. It is pleasing to see what a full membership there is this year from them. The meetings thus far have been characterized by considerable animation, especially in the discussions after the regular proceedings are over. Though perhaps the Essays might be improved, the Readings and Debates have been well sustained and interesting. As the majority of the subjects have been hitherto drawn from religious questions we have heard a good deal from the Divinitys and 'Tugs' and very good speeches too. On the 25th of November, "*Resolved* that disestablishment would benefit the Church in England," created a well argued debate. Several gentlemen of the divinity class becoming greatly excited made telling speeches. Those of Mr. Oliver, (neg.) and Mr. Radcliffe, (aff.) were especially eloquent and enthusiastic, and were loudly cheered. After the meeting an attempt to take away the money appropriated for Essay Reading and Speaking Prizes created an acrimonious discussion, the motion being finally lost by a narrow majority of one vote in the midst of cheers and excitement. The change then made in posting up the subjects of debate in the beginning of the term instead of a week in advance, seems a sensible one.

The prospect for the Institute appears a good one this year. Financially it is sound. Its exercises are well supported by the men. We would like to see some changes in the Reading Room and Library. The pres-

ent Reading Room is very cheerless, and there are no comfortable seats where one can read. The Library needs more shelves and a general overhauling. We think the College authorities ought to be petitioned to fit up the Reading Room at an early date. A more general character in the debate subjects, with perhaps, some political questions, we fancy, would not be taken amiss.

SCHOLARSHIPS.

A most important and beneficial measure has recently been adopted by the Council. The system of awarding Scholarships has been completely changed. The old and in many respects defective system of generally proficiency scholarships has been replaced in a manner which enables us to compete on even terms with the other Universities of our country. In time past our honour men have been too much hampered by being obliged to devote most of the time at their disposal to branches of study altogether outside of their particular sphere, and utterly distasteful to them, and thus not even with the severest application have they been enabled to attain to the perfection which they would desire.

Though one may, perhaps, be inclined to doubt the efficacy of this thorough and possibly in some of our larger Universities almost overstrained system of specialism, owing to it supposed narrowing and contracting influence upon the mind, yet we think there are among us sufficient counteracting influences beyond the pale of University work to nullify any danger of this kind. And in any case it is a wise and politic measure, for while our sister institutions are straining every nerve to send out men deeply read in single branches, we are now enabled by being provided with the same advantages to meet them upon an equal footing and produce men whose merits the public will understand. The new regulations allow competent honour men to restrict themselves almost entirely to their special branch as early as the second year, and the beneficial effects of this measure are already seen in the freshened vigour with which the men are devoting themselves to their work—a work with no drawbacks to it, no depressing group of distasteful studies hanging about it, and to which they can devote themselves with heart and soul. Trinity graduates of the future will owe a debt of gratitude to the Council for this wise change.

OURSELVES.

It is a matter of wonder to us, readers, that so little genuine living interest is taken by our old graduates, indeed by the graduates of most of our new country Universities, in the affairs of their Alma Mater, their educational foster mother, from whom so many of them have derived, not only that quantum of learning which they possess, but most of the habits, thoughts and impulses which direct them through the strife and toil of life. One imagines that it would be otherwise; the circumstances of a College life are so peculiar, and as many a man has in later days discovered so deeply marked with