

COLLEGE NEWS.

ALMA MATER SOCIETY.

AT the Society's meeting, on Nov. 16th, the Freshmen in medicine were proposed for membership and accepted. The sum of \$10 was given to the Song-book Committee for the purchase of music, and the Athletic Committee was requested to return to the Treasurer the \$50 lent by the Society last spring. The only other business was the appointment of a treasurer *pro tem*, and the extending of the time for the reception of the Athletic estimates.

Last Saturday evening a small grant was made to meet expenses incurred in a worthy cause by some of the students. The committee on the new voters' list was asked to report, but failing to do so it was ordered to report next night, and the Executive was instructed to endeavour to get some trace of the list which disappeared two years ago. The committee on the Constitution made a provisional report of the proposed changes, promising to bring in a fuller report at the next meeting. They were instructed by the Society to consider the advisability of having the proposed amendments printed for the convenience of members in the debate thereon.

The President then announced that Divinity Hall would furnish the programme, and called on the Pope of the Hall to take the chair, but that functionary being absent, the Moderator, J. R. Fraser, M.A., acted in his stead. In a few well chosen words he apologized for the regretted absence of His Holiness. E. C. Currie read for the delectation of the congregation an address full of judiciously intermingled mirth and religious instruction. Following him was J. D. Stewart, M.A., who gave most realistically a song as sung by shantymen of the Upper Ottawa district, and being enthusiastically encored, he gave another in the same character. Mr. Stewart's imitation of posture, tone of voice and gesture was really beyond criticism, the speaking of the last line of each song being particularly characteristic. K. J. McDonald, B.A., gave a short address in the vernacular of Paradise, now, alas! spoken only by a few conservative Hghlanders. In this address, we understand, he undertook to cast some reflections on His Holiness. This led to a heated debate between two eloquent divines, which was finally referred to a higher court.

A debate on the subject, "Resolved, that the use of machinery is not conducive to the welfare of the race," was then called, with Messrs. Murray and Herbison for the affirmative, and Messrs. Dyde and Conn for the negative. The speakers were each allowed five minutes to state their points, and at the end of that time were ruthlessly cut off, even in the

midst of most eloquent flights, by the unfeeling timekeeper. The decision was given by the chairman in favour of the negative.

This ended the programme, and when the President resumed the chair, the Society thanked the Hall for its courtesy in furnishing the entertainment for the evening. The critics' report brought to a close the most successful meeting of the session, and probably the largest regular meeting of the Society on record. Nov. 30th is nomination night, so let all be prepared.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON ADDRESSES.

THE PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS ON ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

The hero is a moral force to all with whom he comes in contact. The higher his position, the heavier the stress that there is on him not to live the heroic life, and the wider his influence if he succeeds. I know no one, in our century, more likely to continue a moral force to the whole English speaking race and to universal humanity than Abraham Lincoln.

When he first appeared on the scene, where the world could gaze on him, how unlike he was to traditional conceptions of the heroic! Up to the time of his first inauguration as President, his reputation had scarcely extended beyond the State of Illinois, and there was nothing about him to indicate his fitness for the work to which he had been appointed. The treasure was in a very earthen vessel, as in the cases of Paul, Epictetus, Cromwell, and other heroes. From that date to the day of his death he occupied a position, the like of which, as regards inherent difficulties, agony of spirit to himself, and importance to the race, man had perhaps never occupied before. Every year he came out, like gold tried in the furnace, purer and purer, till at the end the voice of detraction was hushed and it could almost be said "no fault had been found in him." Saving the United States from being disunited, he did a work of altogether immeasurable value; for what the world needs is not to further divide but to unify the English-speaking race."

The Principal, after describing Lincoln's early life, with its coarse and often sordid surroundings, without the advantages of birth, of breeding, or of education, exclaimed: "And this was the man who was elected at the head of a mighty nation, at a time when the greatest statesman might well have been appalled at the frightful impending storm and the roar of the breakers heard on every side! This was the man who, during four years of civil war and continent-wide carnage, which pierced his heart day by day and made the furrows of his face deeper and bowed his strong back, always knew as if by a divine instinct, what to do and what to refrain from