

## Our Debating Society.



IN the last number of the REVIEW there appeared a history of our Athletic Association and considerable space was devoted to Athletics in general. From what was therein contained a person, opposed to Athletics as a part of college life, would readily conclude that we give too much time to physical development and at the expense of mental training.

Such is not the case, however, as anyone in touch with our daily routine must know. We give to Athletics the place they deserve and it is due more to the spirit in which they taken than to their importance in our course that we have attained such notable success in that we have attained such notable success in that line. Other societies exist, and many they are, which enter as a prominent part in intellectual training, and among the most important is the Debating Society.

Away back in the eighties the Society was organized. At first it made slow progress, accomplishing, nevertheless, the end it had in view. It continued in its good work slowly but surely on into the nineties growing in membership and in importance and constantly looking beyond the college walls for foemen to match some of the orators which it possessed. Sure steps were taken previous to this last undertaking.

In the spring of 1900 an impetus was given to the society by the introduction of an Annual Debating Contest. As an evidence that the Faculty of the University had the interest of the Society at heart; the Rev. Rector presented the winner with a gold medal, and every since that time the Rev. Superior's medal has been the object of bitter stubs in the debating line, and it is partly due to it that the Society is so flourishing condition to-day.

Even such a field was not broad enough for the then much increased membership of the organization and in 1903 it sought entrance into the Inter-university Debating League. The application sent was unanimously accepted and now our society forms on of the component organizations of the league composed of McGill, University, Queens University, Toronto University and Ottawa University. Since our initiation into the league our representatives participated in two of its debates, but were unsuccessful in carrying either, but in both cases carried off the palm of oratory.