

captivate all who heard him. He was the first to bring the wonders of the heavens within the range of the average intelligence, and was the forerunner and personal teacher of Herschell, the greatest observational astronomer the world has yet seen. In 1758, the Prince of Wales invited Ferguson to exhibit some of his apparatus before him and thenceforth became a true friend. Five years later the Royal Society admitted him as a member, the only public honor he ever received. He died in 1776.

ALUMNI CONFERENCE.

The alumni conference for '96 is past and we are settling down again into the old routine. But though past, the effects are still present both to those who have gone back to put new zeal and earnestness into their work, and to us who remain behind, who have wider views of life and higher aspirations as a result of the conference. "The best yet" is the unanimous verdict of those who have been identified with this movement from its inception, and this institution has now passed beyond the experimental stage to take its place among the established features of our university life.

One of the signs of the times is the prominence which the conference gave to social and economic questions of the day. If the clergy prove unable to lead in the intelligent consideration of the practical duties of citizenship, the laity will find other leaders and too often these will be demagogues or faddists. The discussions showed that many of our men are alive to this fact, and they duly appreciate the benefit to be received from the clear insight and the strong common sense of our professor of political science.

R. S. V. P.

We have recently heard various interpretations of the familiar letters R.S.V.P. Not having received a training in hieroglyphics, we forbear offering a translation. We may say, however, that in a note of invitation the insertion or omission of these letters in no wise affects the duty of the recipient provided he is unable to accept. The only course a gentleman can pursue is to acknowledge the favor and express his regrets. This should be superfluous advice to college men, but we have actually seen three students—who, to put it mildly, have passed their freshman year in arts—recently manifest the most blissful ignorance of any such regulation. A rusticity so verdant is worthy of the primeval backwoods.

Prof. M. exhibiting electric machine, makes a joke—"You see I can't get a spar-rk now!"

Ingr-m (assisting)—"No. It's leap year."

HOCKEY.

AYR—QUEEN'S 1.

On the evening of February 11th, a large crowd gathered in the Kingston Covered Rink to witness the contest which put Queen's in the finals. The ice was in poor condition and several of our men were not in championship shape. The Ayr team, on the contrary, was in splendid condition. Although it was by no means a star game, the tension was sustained throughout. At half-time the score stood 3—3; at the close 6—3 in favor of Queen's. Ayr plays a good game, with fair combination play and strong defence, but is weak in shooting. For Queen's, Harty and McKay were most prominent by their good play.

DIVINITY HALL.

It came to pass in the reign of Geordy the King, in the —th year of his reign, in the second month, and on the fourteenth day of the month, that I, Daniel, saw a vision in the night as I lay upon my bed, and behold a rushing mighty wind came from the four corners of the earth, even a very great tempest, and the clouds did hide the face of the sun. The snows of many winters were collected together in one place, in the clouds above the earth, and they did fall together and were driven hither and thither of the winds, and were piled in great heaps so that the chariots of King Ben, Prince of the Moneyites, drave heavily. And one stood by me and said, "Daniel, what seest thou?" and I answering said unto him, "I see a great tempest and the gathering together and meeting of much wind; tell me, I pray thee, what is the meaning of it?" And he answered, "O simple one, knowest thou not that it is the time of the *Theologicalalumniconference*." And when I looked I beheld dimly, through the driving snow, the forms of men, both small and great, coming together unto one place out of all the country round about, and I knew that it was even so as he had spoken unto me.

I slept. And behold a second time I saw a vision, and one stood by me as before, and when he had touched my lips with his right hand he commanded me, saying, "Speak, and tell me what is before thee." And I answered, "I see a great Hall, as it were the Hall of Judgment, and I see hanging upon the walls thereof as it were the semblance of just men departed. Moreover, I see the dust and cobwebs of ages resting upon the beams and rafters thereof, and the temperature of the place is nigh unto zero. Tell me, I pray thee, what place is this?" And he said, "It is the Hall of Judgment of the children of wisdom and folly, and some of them take after their father, and others after their mother; howbeit, here are they all judged and rewarded at the last great