

College News.

KNOX COLLEGE.

Considerable interest is being taken by the students in the First Annual Convention of the Canadian Inter-Collegiate Missionary Alliance, which opened on Thursday evening, Oct. 30, with an address of welcome by Rev. Principal Castle, of McMaster Hall. The meetings will be continued until Sunday evening, and have been, so far, of a most interesting character.

Our freshmen have lately passed with safety a most interesting crisis in their careers as students—nothing less than their formal reception into the confidence of the seniors. The address of welcome was given in excellent style, and the impromptu replies of the juniors were eminently satisfactory. Upon the whole a very pleasant and, we trust, profitable time was spent. We cannot but think an affair of this kind a very superior substitute for the traditional "initiation."

In last weeks notes reference was made to Professor Neff, who is at present giving a series of lectures to the students of this College on the subject of Elocution. The system taught by Professor Neff is for the most part original with himself, and it may be interesting to know something of its main features. The cardinal principle of his system is that *expression* is dependent on *impression*, that is, according as you have the truth (not the words) impressed upon your own mind, so shall you express it. Thus, he claims, that in order to avoid mechanism and to produce a perfectly natural, simple, and spontaneous expression, you must deal entirely with impression. Have every idea in the selection which you are going to read photographed in your own mind, bringing every idea before the mind in the concrete conception. By this means your whole being becomes alive to the significance which the scenes have to you, the sensibilities are aroused, self-consciousness is then lost, and as soon as that is lost freedom of speech must necessarily follow. Your individuality is preserved, and you do not become a mere imitator of others, as is too much the case in most public speaking. He holds that gesture should be taught as a mere gymnastic exercise apart from sentiment. Have the whole body and every member of it well-trained so that when your genius tells you to make a gesture you shall do it, and do it gracefully just in proportion as you have that member trained; neither shall you even think how you did it. The same is true in voice culture; have your voice like a well-tuned instrument, so that when modulation of voice is required, and you feel the importance of what you are saying, your voice will have the rising and falling inflection, and no thought is given as to how it is done. By this means your whole mind is allowed to be set on the living reality of the selection, not upon the gesture nor the words which compose the selection. In delivering your speech no thought should be given for securing words, because by seeing every idea passing before your mind in a panoramic fashion, the significance which these scenes have to you arouses the sensibilities, and the language with which the idea is clothed comes spontaneously. This system has been tested, and in every case found successful. Men who were almost failures, by the old method, in public-speaking, have by this course of training qualified themselves to hold the attention of any audience, and have secured to themselves the title of eloquent men. The method is one that will certainly commend itself to anyone who gives the matter any attention. We wish Professor Neff success in teaching this subject, which we fear is too apt to be neglected among students, and hope that the system now so popular in the States may soon be equally so in Canada.

McMASTER HALL.

The Theological Society held its first regular meeting last Friday evening.

Mr. W. H. Cline, B.A., has recently been married, and has gone to Halifax, N. S. Poor Cline!

The Fyfe Missionary Society held a meeting on Thursday evening to hear the reports of their missionaries during the summer.

On Saturday morning a deputation of students from this college waited on Mr. McMaster's orchard and succeeded in bringing home a bushel or two of apples, which were disposed of in the evening on the historic top-flat.

On Monday afternoon Dr. Smith, author of the American National Anthem, gave a very interesting missionary address in the Chapel. Having visited in person nearly all the Baptist foreign mission fields, he could speak from practical experience of the work done on them. He has recently celebrated his golden wedding.

WYCLIFFE COLLEGE.

The first regular meeting of the Literary Society took place last Wednesday evening. The chair was taken by Mr. R. L. Sloggett, vice-president, in the absence of the President. After the transacting of business, a debate on the following subject took place: "Resolved, that the statement made in the recent Church Congress that the tide of Sunday desecration cannot be stopped is erroneous." On the affirmative were Messrs. Miles and Gaviller, and on the negative Messrs. Sloggett and French. The decision was given in the affirmative.

The students are hoping at no remote date to see the Dean, the Rev. G. M. Wrong, back once more among them. We believe that Mr. Wrong's health is steadily improving, and that before long he will be able to resume his duties in the college.

A good deal of interest has been manifested by the students in the recent Inter-Collegiate Convention. There were no lectures on Friday in order to allow the students to attend the Convention.

TRINITY MEDICAL SCHOOL.

It seems that in the first communication for the year one must necessarily fall into the beaten path of other correspondents who are all happy to meet again, and speak hopefully of the extra success expected from the new year. Trinity opened this year with a success not expected but rather achieved. The dissecting room on the upper flat is a thing of the past, its place being supplied by a new brick building in the rear of the school, which, in the opinion of all, gives us the best dissecting room in the Dominion. In what was the old dissecting room we have now the museum. Our freshmen class this year far exceeds anything before, and we have consequently in its ranks a greater number of rising medical men, *i.e.*, elevated freshmen than ever. There is at present considerable excitement over the coming election of officers for the Annual Dinner, which has always been an event in the year's history, and which will be, according to the speeches of the various nominees, who declared collectively and individually—five of them in the freshman year for 3rd vice alone—that in the event of their being elected they would endeavor to make the dinner a greater success than ever. The nominees for chairman are Messrs. Dewar and Lynch. Feeling is very evenly divided in regard to these. The other nominees are too numerous to mention. We find the 'VARSITY represented by Mr. G. Gordon in the 3rd year, and Messrs. Fère and Nesbitt in the 1st year.

OPINIONS CURRENT AND OTHERWISE.

"THE 'VARSITY has entered upon its fifth year. It retains the old character with, we think, some improvements. First and foremost, the advertisements are more numerous, and the 'sign board' is improved by the dismissal of the ungallant youth and the listless maiden. There is a pleasing tone about the leading article, too; quiet, yet conscious of power, and determined to wield it. We heartily wish THE 'VARSITY prosperity."—*The Toronto World*.

"Until the individual reason and conscience are emancipated, until men cease to accept political dictates without question and without submitting them to the general test of common sense and justice, Party will not cease to be another name for Tyranny."—*Philadelphia Evening Bulletin*.

"Whatever may have been the prospects of the annexation of Canada to the United States a quarter of a century ago, they have materially lessened, it seems to us, under the extraordinary internal development of the past five years; and we now look for a great companion Republic of Canada."—*Boston Literary World*.

"However circumstances may help or hinder us, the intellectual life is always a contest or a discipline, and the art or skill of living intellectually does not so much consist in surrounding ourselves with what is reputed to be advantageous, as in compelling every circumstance and condition of our lives to yield us