

change may have been brought about from consideration of the fact that the other faculties were not addicted to this sub-classification, and that Arts, to be fairly represented in this, by no means unimportant place of students' social life, would be obliged to hold one dinner representative of it as a faculty of the University. Allowing for this apparently strong inducement towards unity in the matter, we question whether the union among the several classes and the greater importance of the annual event in the faculty itself, are not the best results of the change. Now, there is hardly a valid reason why this principle of unity in the matter of dinners should not be extended further, and all the faculties of our University unite in holding one grand annual banquet, an event which would bring together in social union all the features of our University life—governors, professors, graduates, and students—and might even include the visitor himself, as well as many noteworthy personages in Canadian life, who would be far from disdaining to feast under the patronage of a great University. There is nothing in all this which need eliminate the distinctively student character of the event, although, even as matters now exist, a part of this feature has been sacrificed by incorporating representatives of the professoriate into some of the committees for providing the entertainments, and no faculty gathering would now be deemed complete without a full representation of its generally much respected and esteemed professors. At a general banquet, such as we advocate, a student might be elected to preside, and yet the meeting lose no tittle of its importance. In the matter of speeches the efforts of the students would, necessarily, be much curtailed, but it is generally conceded that in this respect there is room for great improvement. A selection of one or more oratorical representations from each faculty would materially raise the standard of speaking usually heard on such occasions, and it must further be remembered that public dinners are not, as a rule, schools of oratory, especially as regards practice. Of the importance such an event as we contemplate would be to Montreal, and to what degree it would bring forward the social character of our University in all parts of the country, need hardly be mentioned. Sufficient to say, that even though gathered exclusively within the limits of the University connection, such an assemblage would embrace leaders within almost every department of public and private life, and the value of such contact, though brief, to students and others would certainly be great. In the matter of facilities, such a dinner could be held in the finest hall in the Dominion, while, as regards ex-

pense, there is but little reason that this last consideration should appreciably exceed that at present being individually incurred. We can only hope that the plan will commend itself to the consideration of all classes within the University, and its many points of advantage and feasibility earnestly discussed. We can conceive of absolutely nothing against it; the burden will fall equally upon all, the rights of every faculty will be preserved, and the dinner, instead of being a formal farce, will fill every need which these institutions are meant to supply. The University authorities would be allowed an opportunity of speaking to the public, and its benefactors to know of the disposition of their gifts. If the matter is fairly presented to the students, and they look at the question from a broader standpoint than the mere pleasure of one faculty, the scheme cannot but succeed, and next year we hope, and feel assured, that this magnificent project will be carried out.

#### A NEW SOCIETY.

Last May the lady graduates of McGill met together and organized a society having for its object, besides mutual improvement, the banding together of all its members, however scattered, with a common interest. It was then decided to communicate with the lady graduates of other Canadian Universities, suggesting that they also should form societies, so that eventually all might be united as branches of a Dominion Intercollegiate Association. It was thought that such an association would reach the whole of a new and rapidly increasing class of Canadian women, and would in time prove a power for good in our country. Many of those written to have been heard from, and are anxious to co-operate. The Kingston ladies, especially, sympathize with the movement.

McGill's branch, which has adopted the signature of "MUIOTA," will meet once a month, from October to June, inclusive. The subjects chosen for study are chiefly on current lines, and embrace many topics of interest to Canadians. The first meeting is devoted to Canadian Natural Scientists; another will treat of our writers. The politics of Canada, too, will be discussed in three papers: "The British North American Act," "The National Policy," and "Provincial Parliaments." The general plan of work is on a broad basis, and will be but little altered from year to year.

Absent, as well as resident, members will contribute papers, and will receive by mail copies of all essays read before the society.