

COLLEGE NEWS.

A. M. S.

NOTWITHSTANDING the nearness of exams. the usual large attendance at the A. M. S. still continues. There was very little business transacted as most of the matters that were to come up were postponed till next meeting. The committee appointed to select Curators for the Reading Room for next session reported, recommending the following gentlemen: The Postmaster for next session, W. W. Peck, W. L. Grant, E. Peacock, J. S. Shortt, J. McC. Kellock, D. McG. Gandier, J. R. Conn and F. Playfair. The report was adopted.

D. W. Best gave notice that the committee appointed to draw up a complete voters' list of members of the A. M. S. would report at next meeting.

The report of the committee to ascertain the relation of the Athletic Committee to the A. M. S. and the report of the committee to select a JOURNAL staff for next session, will be brought in to-night.

The Critic then gave his report, after which the society resolved itself into a Mock Parliament. The impeachment of certain members of the House occupied the whole evening. Mr. Kellock delivered a very amusing speech and kept the House in roars of laughter. This was the last session of the Parliament for this year. In the opinion of all it has been an unqualified success and they are only sorry it was not started earlier in the session.

IMPRESSIONS OF ALUMNI CONFERENCE.

The attempt made at the late Conference was a novel one in Canadian university life so far as the writer is aware, and therefore was largely experimental. To say the experiment was a success is quite within the mark. The attendance of ministers actively engaged in Church work for a ten days Conference, at the season when the demand on their time is greater than usual, exceeded the expectations of the promoters of the scheme. They were present in spirit as well as in body, and though not so well "read up" as could be wished on the course outlined in the programme, yet

each member came down with his mind open to receive truth. Not many essays were read, no doubt owing to the incomplete arrangements for securing the most papers possible. The main weakness of the essays was the lack of assimilation of the subject discussed. Given a few books of reference, three or four months—or say weeks—may be time enough to prepare a thirty minute paper which on the whole may be worth reading. But it will be technical, stiff, and, as it were, rather "outside" the writer than the matured product of a mind saturated with the subject. Notwithstanding this defect, the fact that men were reading with a purpose, with a discriminating eye, shows one point of great value the Conference had in view when it was originated.

The enthusiasm with which the members went to the College was more than met by the excellent arrangements made by the professors for any or all attending classes outside of the prescribed programme. A graduate of the 80's may be pardoned when he envies the advantages of a student of the 90's. In material advantages alone the eye sees progress all round. What a change *e.g.* there is in the cheery and comfortable quarters of the P. M. G., and excellent wire screen shutting out the *profanum vulgus*, when compared with the old wicket gate in the old College, through which occasionally a smaller sized student like "Billy" J. was handed through.

No need to yell now, just look at the card; no name, no letter,—pass out.

But the advances made in Arts, Science, etc., are the true marks of a live College. Compare the Calendar of '92-'93 with the date '82-'83 and there will be seen a greater division of labor, fuller treatment of subjects—giving the most ambitious youth the choice of several highroads in the world of knowledge.

One thing the writer was delighted to find had not been thrown out in the progress of these years, that is the weekly or bi-weekly essay during the session. This admirable though laborious plan brings the student into touch with his professor, who is to youth not a mere lecturer, but a philosopher and friend.

Lastly, the discussions held and the matured thought of the University leads one to see and to prize more and more that the Christian religion is true philosophy, inasmuch as it