

GLEE CLUB.

Scarcely at 9 a.m. this morning, had we risen from our frugal Editorial roll and coffee, (*sans sucre, sans lait*) when we hailed with satisfaction the announcement now appearing in our columns, that this club had resumed its weekly meetings. Although from various reasons, several of last year's members have left, their places have been eagerly supplied by our younger colleagues of the junior year, together with those of our seniors who could have wished, but were unable last session, to help an institution worthy in every way of College support. Dr. Harrington, to whom the club owes so much, has been re-elected President, and Mr. Houghton, Conductor; and we have no doubt that in Messrs. A. Taylor, B.A., and C. Lyman, the club will find respectively a diligent Secretary-Treasurer and a kenning Business Manager. The club meets for practice punctually at 8 o'clock on Tuesday evenings, alternately at Dr. Harrington's and the Secretary's (Mr. Taylor), until further notice.

The zeal with which the objects of this club have been supported, shew that to a certain extent, a want among us has been supplied; the want felt by the hard-working student of some kind of relaxation, which, not offending his mental capacities by puerility on the one hand, or labouriousness on the other, nevertheless brings them into play. And this leads us on to the question, "Why should not we at McGill, make a more serious study of this Art, and have, as in other large Universities, a "Musical Chair?" Education is not the qualifying a man to pounce with greater dexterity upon his client, or enabling him to drive a harder bargain upon the Stock Exchange; but the means whereby (as our childhood's copy books say, roundhand), he may "shun vice, follow right," so that by gazing on a fine picture, or listening to a noble symphony, he is a better man, in a word, having less love of evil in his nature, and more of what is good. Now Mother McGill has spread a splendid board, whereon are placed before us in rich profusion, Classical, Mathematical, and English dishes, with "sauce à la Française," but where the musical dish, which is to the feast the good wine or cham—[under the present social pressure, we feel compelled to say, though with a consciousness of irreverence we scarce know why, ginger ale and lemonade] is totally wanting. Minerva forgive us! Too true it is that the voice of Art is silent in our halls. We may only hope that this silence is the silent agony of a great birth, McGill giving to the world her Milton and Bulwer, her Raphael and Turner, her Bishops, Moderators of Synods, Judges, Lawyers, Statesmen, but, alas! if Apollo woos her not,—how her Beethoven, her Mozart?

APPLIED SCIENCE.

We are glad to see that the number of students in Applied Science is increasing. Such a remark may be premature, because the Christmas examinations have generally proved somewhat unfriendly to the Freshmen, thinning their numbers considerably. This year, however, they seem to be pretty well up, and we hope they will pass their examinations *en masse*. Dr. Dawson lately announced that the Faculty had secured the services of Mr. Harris, as Professor of Engineering; and that Mr. McLeod, in addition to his former duties, would deliver the lectures in Surveying. This arrangement will certainly prove satisfactory to the students.

We hope that the McGill Association of Engineers will be resolutely supported by the Science students. If the graduates

give help and encouragement, it may form the nucleus of an important and useful institution. It was organized so late in the session of 1875-6 that its founders were unable to give proper care to its organization; but Mr. McLeod, who has taken a deep interest in the Society all along, has called a meeting of graduates to consider how it can best be placed upon a firm and useful basis. The annual meeting will be held in the second week in November, when officers for the coming year will be elected, and the alterations [if any] in the constitution be effected. One noteworthy feature in the organization of the society, was the energy with which the Science students took it up, every student but one joining and attending the meetings. Read and ponder, ye indolent men of Arts.

BOOK NOTICES.

HAMERTON'S INTELLECTUAL LIFE.—This excellent work, which made its appearance some time ago, is perhaps one of the most sensible, and at the same time most likely to be beneficial to students of any that we are acquainted with. Its range is too widely extended for us to attempt more than a very brief outline of it. Written in the form of letters, and in an easy, almost conversational style, it is peculiarly agreeable to both student and general reader. With regard to the section devoted to the subject of education, which ought to interest students, let us say a few words. In it the principle of an early choice of a specialty is brought forward; this, of course, is all very well when a person early shows a marked talent in any particular direction, but among the great majority this is far from being the case; in this respect, as in many others, the true course will be found to be the medium between smattering on the one hand and extreme specializing on the other. Mr. Hamerton objects to all mnemonic contrivances, and makes the assertion that the rational art of memory is that in use in the natural sciences; in this too he has overlooked the fact that there are great dissimilarities in different mental organisms, so that what may to one mind be extremely pernicious, may to another be found to be pre-eminently useful. The remarks on the "Power of Time" are full of sound, practical wisdom. In the section on "Women and Marriage" the necessity for the higher education of women is well brought out. Altogether there is no book that we can more confidently recommend to students than this, for, whatever be its merits, it will at least furnish matter for thought and inquiry which much of the ordinary college education of the present day fails signally to do.

With regard to Daniel Deronda and Trevelyan's Macaulay, we are of the opinion that enough has already been said and written. A few words about George Eliot herself may not be amiss here. George Eliot is the *nom de plume* of Mrs. George H. Lewes, who was before her marriage a Miss Evans, when she gained much of her reputation as a novelist. She was the daughter of a poor country clergyman, and was adopted when quite young by a wealthy gentleman of the vicinity. She was a hard student, and at one time had for tutor the distinguished Herbert Spencer. Her first work was "Scenes from Clerical Life," which received great praise from Thackeray. She is now over fifty years of age, and is said to be very plain, having a rather long and serious face. She did not marry till somewhat late in life. Her husband (Professor Lewes) is also noted as a writer, among the number of his productions being a "History of Philosophy" and an excellent Life of Goethe.