

a reminder of the barbarity of the English Press. He then issued a solemn edict, that no press should ever be brought to China, which edict may still be seen in the temple of the god Yg-lee in Pekin. But this is not to the point.

Ancient printing was altogether done by single blocks, which only served for one impression. The discovery of separate types is claimed by the Polanders for Americus Vespucis. This is disputed by the Turks, who claim that the honor is due to Charlemagne.

The first Bible was printed in 1563 by Gutenberg. All around the corners of the leaves of this Bible were studies in Natural History, done in glaring colors; and such was the idea of art of that time, that on the fly leaf was depicted, in red and yellow, a huge grizzly bear. This Bible is still extant, and many people now go to Florence, where it is kept, to see the marvelous art displayed in the coloring of the bear.

In modern times presses are much different from what they used to be. Now flat presses, operated by jack-screws, are used for newspapers; while for delicate and elaborate work, such as visiting cards and posters, vast cylinder presses are used. It is said that Mrs. Jay Gould formerly kept two cylinder presses running night and day to print visiting cards for her use alone. Such is the press upon fashionable people.

Printing has made a great change in literature. Formerly a book was a great treasure. Now, the best editions of the *Encyclopedia Britannica* may be purchased for five cents.

THE UNDERGRADUATES LITERARY SOCIETY.

The first public debate of the season was held in the Molson's Hall, on Friday evening, November 1st. The Hall was crowded with members of the Society and their friends, a large number of ladies being present.

Mr. V. E. Mitchell, the President, ascended the platform shortly after 8 o'clock, accompanied by Principal Peterson, Professor Cox and the several speakers. Mr. Mitchell, in opening the proceedings, said that he esteemed it an honor to have the privilege of extending, on behalf of the Society, a warm and friendly greeting to Dr. Peterson, the Principal of the University. He assured Dr. Peterson that he was heartily welcome, and that the members of the Society regarded his presence amongst them as only another instance of his desire to identify himself

with all that concerned the interests and welfare of the students. After giving a short account of the Society, its aims and objects, the President called upon the Principal to address the meeting.

Dr. Peterson, in a very able and interesting address on Literary Societies, gave the members some good advice in regard to public speaking. He said that a little diffidence in young speakers was preferable, and certainly a good deal more pleasing than a too confident demeanor.

Debating societies afforded splendid opportunities to their members for acquiring dexterity in public speaking and the ability to express in a lucid and appropriate manner their views upon the subject of discussion. But he specially warned them against sacrificing matter to style, as, after all, it was what a man had to say, and not the manner of saying it, that really weighed with an audience. A literary society properly conducted formed a valuable adjunct to University work, and he saw no reason why the members should not study and discuss questions of political science, a knowledge of which was essential in the education of every man. Of course, burning political questions, in which, perhaps, religious and racial feelings were involved, should be avoided in a University society, but discussions of political questions on broad and general grounds would undoubtedly tend to a more thorough knowledge of political economy, and to a better understanding of the relation of State to the individual, and the responsibility of the latter in all questions affecting the welfare of the State. He hoped that the members of this Society would not forget the importance of reading, not the hurried, undigested reading, which was too prevalent in these days of many books, but the careful, intelligent reading, which would add something to one's knowledge. Bacon had truly said that "reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man." It is impossible, with the space at our disposal, to state more of the Principal's interesting address; but we hope at some future time, with the Principal's permission, to have an opportunity of publishing it in full.

At the close of Dr. Peterson's address, the debate was proceeded with. The subject was an interesting one:—"Resolved, that the study and pursuit of Law have done more for the advancement of civilization than the study and pursuit of the Liberal Arts."

Mr. Mullin, Law '96, opened in the affirmative, and Mr. Saxe, Arts '98, in the negative. The other speakers were: Mr. Hanson, Law '96; Mr. Macmaster, Arts '98; and Mr. Heney, Arts '98.

Professor Cox, at the conclusion of the Debate, in a graceful and judicial manner, summed up the arguments submitted, and rendered a judgment in favor of the Liberal Arts.