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Editorial Comments.



THE annual concert of the Glee Club is as announced elsewhere set for Feb'y 24th and the committee will spare no pains to make this worthy of its predecessor of '92.

To those who know the excellence of the programmes and the complete success which has attended previous concerts, no further recommendation is necessary and it is certain that the one important event of the University will receive an enthusiastic support from the students and their friends through a sense of its merits alone. Let every one who wishes to spend a delightful evening reserve that of Feb'y 24th for an entertainment of excellent promise which is as certain of fulfilment as anything in the future can well be.

The debate with Queen's University has fallen through. The Queen's men did not ask the earth and the fulness thereof, but if we except Hawaii and the pineapple crop, we should have a fair relative idea of the extent of the conditions they wished to impose. That they did not ask to have the debate held on neutral ground, with a doorkeeper to admit partisans of Queen's and Toronto alternately, with the right to search any one suspected of carrying in opinions prejudicial to their view of the question, is the one surprising fact in the conduct of the negotiations.

The subjects submitted for debate had relation, we believe, to that interesting subject, the Destiny of Canada, and the Limestone men seem to have firmly grasped the idea that the decision would settle that forever and the status of Queen's for a generation. In light of this it is not surprising that they wished to hedge the granting of that decision about with as many conditions as there are special constables on their football field.

But though undoubtedly correct in this view they have totally mistaken us. We get so many favourable decisions that if they had pressed the matter we could have given away one or two gratis without ever missing them.

We hope that future negotiations will result more satisfactorily and that we shall in some future time hear the eloquent sons of Queen's expatiate on Canada's political destiny.

A question that might well be agitated amongst us, is whether that entity (or non-entity, as it may be) known as University spirit is a thing capable of creation by mere appeal, or whether it has its origin in forces which lie deeper in the nature of men and things. To many of us such appeals are not only ineffective but meaningless; they pass us by and we wonder why we are not animated with the noble zeal that inspires the declaimer. And yet we hope, nay, believe, that we have something of zeal for

what is noble and just and true, and have vague intuitions that it is through a sense of the possession of these qualities that reverence and zeal for an object should be inspired. Can it be that this is wrong, that through a defect, a lack of something essential in our moral constitution, we are not subject to those influences which make for good in others, or can it be that the declaimer is a declaimer and no more, that true spirit is a thing beyond the power of mere wordy frothiness, and that if ever the semblance of what he deems noble and disinterested is called into existence thus, that it is but a semblance, a spurious imitation of the true, unworthy in its source, in its objects and in its possessor?

THE DUFF OPERA CO.

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF THE GLEE CLUB.

A new French opera comique entitled "La Basoche," will be produced expressly in honor of Toronto University men, by the famous Duff Opera Company, at the Academy of Music, on Thursday evening of this week. The night will be entirely devoted to the college boys, and in many respects will be unique. Mr. J. C. Duff, is himself, a Cambridge man, and a number of those associated with him are either English or American University graduates. This fact led the Impresario to purchase from the composer, "La Basoche," which deals entirely with student life in Paris, under Louis XII. It also led him to produce the opera in honor of the Toronto Under graduates and Alumni. The event will take place under the patronage of the University Glee Club, the members of which hope to make the night the most distinctively a student one, that we have ever known in Toronto. 'Varsity hopes that the University will turn out a rousing representation on Thursday night, such as Toronto has never known before. Miss Helen Bertram, the beautiful prima donna, has already made herself a favorite with the students, and it is believed that Miss Villa Knox, who will impersonate the wife of the student king, will quite captivate their hearts. The University colors will be worn by one of these pretty girls, and the chorus will sing one of our most popular songs.

The plot of the opera is a veritable musical comedy of errors. The students at Paris have chosen Clement Marot, a young poet, as king of their club, The Basoche. Marot has secretly been married to Colette, a rustic beauty, although the law of the Club forbids any of the members marrying during their under-graduate days. Colette appears at the University and endeavors to claim her husband, but is prevailed upon to take a room at the student's hotel, "The Pewter Platter," until he can acknowledge her. Colette, being economical, becomes a maid-of-all-work at the hotel. To this inn comes Princess Mary of England, who wishes to have a clandestine frolic in Paris before formally entering as the wife of King Louis XII, whom she has never seen. She arrives just as the students pass, escorting their monarch, Clement Marot. The Princess, at first sight, falls in love with Marot, whom, being addressed as King, she believes to be her husband, and sends him a bouquet by poor Colette, who, in her ignorance, now also believes she has married the King of