

Council issues a proclamation in which Ontario is spoken of as a town; diners-out discuss Toronto as a South American city. *The Times* asserts that Montreal can neither understand nor appreciate the deliberations of the British Association; and the *Contemporary Review* makes the startling announcement that Canada is without a shadow of intellectual significance for the thinker. It is not much wonder that Professor Seeley finds reason to deplore the indifference of the English to the expansion of their state, and their ignorance of all things colonial.

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The futility of preaching against indulgence in the various amusements which polite society invents for its diversion and relaxation was ably dwelt upon in the Chapel of Trinity University the other day by a visiting dignitary of the Church. We wish that this fact were more generally recognized than it is, and utterances from the pulpit aimed rather at purifying amusements than at denouncing them. Each passing decade life grows more intense, the struggle for existence keener, the competition fiercer, and the solemnity of man more conspicuous. To counteract the evil effects of this unhappy state of affairs amusements must necessarily form a part of every one's scheme of existence, would he not sink to the level of a mere machine. Had Mr. Mantalini lived in these scrambling, undignified days, these days of desperate determination to make fortunes, had he lived here on this Continent of North America, his lamentations over the grinding character of life would have been considerably more applicable than they were in his own time and in his own place. Yes, Mr. Mantalini, you should see how we grind in Canada. Our standard of success in life is dollars—so many dollars, so much success. Our religion is to labour hard, and to be very serious about our labouring. To be a moral man is to be a religious man, but to be a total abstainer is to rank with all the saints who have lived and died since the advent of the Christian era. But be it understood that there is a time to dance and sing as well as a time to toil and mourn; a time to be frolicsome and free, as well as harsh and frowning; a time to glorify the appetites, as well as to be ascetic. He who should combine all these extremes into his life, each in its place and proportion, would fulfil one of the chief objects of existence. And to those who hold themselves aloof from society and its amusements on the ground of frivolity, it may be said that society is and always must be to a certain extent frivolous. It is intended for recreation, not for work; for relaxation, not for fresh application. It is the playground of civilization, where a great deal of what children call make-believe necessarily goes on; where all of us are more or less distinctly acting parts, and hiding our real selves under a fanciful mask.

## THE ANNUAL MEETING OF CONVOCATION.

The proceedings in connection with the Annual Meeting of Convocation, must have filled the heart of every friend of Trinity with encouragement and hope. The Service in the Chapel was hearty and well attended; the Sermon exceedingly appropriate to the occasion. At the business meeting the attendance was large and influential, and very fairly representative of those parts of Ontario, where the cause of Trinity has been pleaded in connection with Convocation. At the dinner which followed, the utmost enthusiasm was exhibited by all, a result in no small degree owing to the excellent quality of the dinner itself, which was prepared by the steward.

The proceedings commenced on Monday evening at 8 o'clock, with choral evensong, and sermon by Rev. Dr. Carry, of Port Hope. The preacher indicated the key note which might be appropriately struck at this Annual Service, by the special preacher, in the following words: "May we not be allowed to regard this day as the precursor of an endless series of celebrations in which not the achievements of man, but the magnificence and glory of Christ should be the theme of admiring, and grateful recognition."

On the following afternoon the business meeting was held in the dining hall.

After the opening prayer, and reading of the minutes of the last meeting, Mr. J. A. Worrell presented the report of the executive committee, the principal feature of which was the announcement that ten local centres had been organized, by a deputation which during the summer had travelled through the eastern part of Ontario.

The retiring members of the Committee having been re-elected, the meeting proceeded to discuss the questions down on the paper. They were:

- (1) Local Branches of Convocation and their working.
- (2) Extension of the Law Faculty.
- (3) Higher Education of Women with special regard to the Women's College.
- (4) Enlargement of College Buildings.

The Provost introduced the first subject, and in the course of his speech, explained the simple character of the work of forming a Local Branch. There were probably no towns in Ontario, and few villages even, which could not supply four or five Associate Members. These could meet together and elect a representative on the Executive Committee, and a Local Secretary, with whom the Clerk of Convocation could communicate. The Executive Committee was always ready to assist in the inauguration of a movement of this kind by sending one or more of their members of Convocation to address a meeting, and thoroughly explain the movement.

It is very much to be hoped that members of Convocation wherever living will take note of this, and endeavour to form Local Centres in as many places as possible.

The Rev. J. Langtry, M.A., spoke of the necessity for