

vote him their thanks, let him consider it a freely given honour rather than as merely his due.

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Everyone who attends the meetings must have noticed that since the incoming of the new officers, business at the A.M.S. has been transacted with far more regard to the rules of procedure, far more in accordance with Bourinot, than was formerly the case. Amendments are now for the most part presented in proper terms, and in various ways decorum is better observed. Not being strong believers in the *post hoc, propter hoc* principle, we are by no means sure that this is due wholly to the new executive; if we were to assign a cause, we should ascribe it more to the retiring speech of last year's vice-president than to anything else; but the important point is not to whom it is due, but that it has come at all.

But there are still one or two points which might not unfairly be criticized. The first is that business is not infrequently brought up under the wrong heading. Surely the report of a committee appointed six weeks before would more properly come up under some other department than that of "business arising out of the minutes of the previous meeting;" and certainly to bring up under this head a motion to reconsider, when we have a section for "propositions and motions," is absurd.

We were in hopes, judging from the previous meetings, that the members had at last learned that a meeting is not adjourned until the presiding officer has left the chair, but it seems that we were mistaken. Last Saturday some one shouted: "I move we adjourn;" before this was even seconded, those present seized their hats, coats, etc., and a rush was made for the door.

We hope, too, that in future the President will exercise a little more firmness, and not allow members to hold personal altercations across the meeting, during which such phrases: "My opinion is as good as yours," "You did," "I did not," etc., could be heard.

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Notice is hereby given, that application will be made to the Legislature of Ontario at its next session, for an Act to confirm the incorporation of "The School of Mining and Agriculture," and to give it additional powers to

establish and maintain at the City of Kingston, a school for the training and education of students and more particularly of miners, prospectors, farmers, artisans and workmen, to whom instruction may be given in the various branches of chemistry, mineralogy, metallurgy, mining and assaying, in agriculture and related subjects, in veterinary science, in navigation, in civil, electrical and mechanical engineering and architecture, or any other department of applied science, and for powers to obtain municipal aid to carry the said objects into effect and for other purposes.

MACDONNELL & MUDIE,

Solicitors for Applicants.

Dated at Kingston,

this twenty-second day of December, 1892.

The above clipping, taken from the Ontario *Gazette*, will be of interest, as showing that rapid steps are being made towards the completion of the School of Mines and Agriculture; and as enumerating the objects which it is intended to serve.

✦ Literature ✦

"THE novel with a purpose is an odious attempt to lecture people who hate lectures, to preach at people who prefer their own church, and to teach people who think they know enough already. It is an ambush, a lying-in-wait for the unsuspecting public, a violation of the social contract—and as such it ought to be either mercilessly crushed or forced by law to bind itself in black and label itself "Purpose" in very big letters.

In art of all kinds the moral lesson is a mistake. It is one thing to exhibit an ideal worthy to be imitated, though inimitable in all its perfection, but so clearly noble as to appeal directly to the sympathetic string that hangs untuned in the dullest human heart; to make man brave without arrogance, woman pure without prudishness, love enduring yet earthly, not angelic, friendship sincere but not ridiculous. It is quite another matter to write a "guide to morality" or a "hand book for practical sinners" and call either one a novel, no matter how much fiction it may contain. Wordsworth tried the moral lesson, and spoiled some of his best work with botany and the Bible. A good many smaller men than he have tried the same thing since, and have failed. Perhaps "Cain" and "Manfred"