

The reputation of the Scientific Society is growing apace both within and without the house. The regular lectures given during the past month—"Language: Its Rise and Growth," by W. A. Martin, '02, and "Glaciers," by U. Valiquet, '02—were favored by attendance the largest on record since the Society's inception. On the evening of the 12th inst. an audience filling the entire Dramatic Hall witnessed the inauguration of the public lecture course. Mr. Topley, in an illustrated lecture on Ireland, gave a treat long-to-be-remembered, and has caused himself to be enrolled as one of the Society's chief benefactors.

From time immemorial it has been the peculiar privilege of speakers in the English Debating Society to address empty benches, but, thanks to the general awakening of the student-body, this condition of affairs no longer exists. The attendance at the last three debates was extraordinarily large.

On Jan. 26th, "Resolved, that the introduction of modern machinery has been baneful to society," was discussed by Messrs. J. J. O'Gorman and J. Tobin for the affirmative, and J. F. Hanley and P. Smith for the negative. The decision was given to the affirmative.

Feb. 2nd, Messrs. T. E. Day and J. Harrington opposed Messrs. R. Carey and W. Dooner on the question, "Resolved, that municipalities should own and control the public conveniences (water-plants, telephone, lighting, and street railways). This was one of the most finely conducted debates heard for many a day. Messrs. Carey and Dooner were the successful contestants.

On Feb. 9th, the Academic Hall was engaged by the Dramatic Society of Hull, and consequently no debate was held.

The subject of debate on the 16th was—"Resolved, that the formation of trusts tends to the material prosperity of a country." Messrs. W. J. Collins and O. Macdonald upheld the resolution, and opposing them were Messrs. J. McDonald and V. Meagher. The decision went to the affirmative.

The weekly philosophical discussions in St. Thomas Academy are proving agreeable as well as instructive. Great praise is due Rev. Dr. Nilles for the good work being done.