

was founded as a training ground in public speaking, and it is to the lasting credit of the Old Lit. party that it has never departed to any appreciable extent from the ideals of the founders. Amateur plays and addresses by prominent men serve a very useful purpose in their proper spheres, but have no place in a society whose chief purpose is to prepare men for the very serious duty of giving public expression to their views when circumstances demand the performance of such duty.

The election campaign was shorter and sharper than last year's. It was also distinguished by the publication of campaign literature by both parties. The "Unionist" appeared for five days and was a very clever and original production. On Thursday and Friday the Old Lit. party published "The Retort Courteous," which was a very dignified and effective statement of the claims of the party. On Monday night there was held a highly successful joint meeting, at which several speakers discussed the platforms. One very satisfactory feature of the discussion was the almost entire absence of personalities.

At three o'clock on Friday afternoon the polls for the graduate vote opened down-town. From three to seven both parties worked strenuously. A large vote was polled and many more voted at night. At eight o'clock the polls opened for the undergraduates. From then till a quarter to five Saturday morning the votes poured in. Both parties bent their full energies to the contest, as for some time the results appeared to be doubtful. Then came the arduous task of counting the votes. The results were announced at about half-past eight o'clock, and were received by the small crowd of enthusiasts who remained to the end.

Mr. J. J. Kylie, B.A., who defeated his opponent, Rev. A. F. Barr, by a majority of 145, is an exceptionally eligible young man for the distinguished position of President of the Literary and Scientific Society. The combination, however, of comparative youth with rare ability and ripe experience will make Mr. Kylie the ideal man for a position where sympathy with the feelings and aspirations of young men is a requisite. Mr. George Miller and the remainder of the Executive will co-operate with Mr. Kylie, and the coming year will doubtless be the most successful in the history of the Society. G. M.



Magna Est Virtus Et Praevalebit!

Mr. Editor desires me to write an article which will be an explanation of our minority of 41 acquired at the "Lit" polls Friday night last. To me comment seems superfluous, or, if it must needs be made, why should we not be satisfied with the modest little motto circulated by our one-time opponents which we have quoted above. However, there are a few things which we can say if we are cornered even yet; and here are some of them:—

It is a difficult thing to oust any government. Human nature rebels against the thought of espousing a cause by which little personal advantage can accrue and much may be lost. It is only when an administration has committed some positive outrage that it can be turned out, and

then it is the men of backbone on its own side that do it, and not the mugwumps. They follow and make the defeat a rout, but only because they were satisfied within their own little hearts that the government was done for.

It is to this propensity for looking after one's own skin that I attribute the extent of the Unionist defeat. I do not blame the men who decided to throw in their lot with the winners. It was very, very prudent in them; and after all human nature has a strong inclination towards prudence when there is nothing to be gained by ignoring it. There was something of the sportsman lacking maybe, but then genuine sportsman-like spirit is a thing much more commonly talked about than acted on.

For those who by the exercise of their perspicacity and the violent restraint of their wild exuberant enthusiasm for a hard fight, have secured places for themselves beside the hearth-fire of party patronage we have nothing but good wishes. May their reward be as great—I will not say as they merit, I will be more generous—as they expected. We bear them no malice and they have nothing that we can envy them. A trifle out in the cold we may be—and it gets pretty chilly too when the ring around the governmental fire crowds up and keeps all the warmth to itself—but we would rather be Unionists and shiver than—oh well, anything else.

I do not wish to be misunderstood with regard to the above remarks. They apply only to a small proportion of the victorious party: to the camp followers, the men Fridays, etc., who number, I estimate, about 41. Further than that, I have no wish to impugn the motives of Old Lit men in supporting their side. The party has many legitimate inducements to offer that might well influence fair-minded and conscientious voters. It has been in power for a long time; its administration, looked at from the proper point of view, appears tolerable; it numbers among its older leaders some men of undoubted ability; and indeed there are many other things which might appeal to an honest and even intelligent man. Again, those that are already sworn to the party—whatever may have originally induced them to join—cannot but be expected to support it, nor would we wish them to do otherwise, because it would be as fatal to party politics for one side to back out as for the other. You, whom I have endeavored to exculpate from the imputations that a portion of your party has drawn on itself, we are glad to have as opponents; and some day, when the tide of battle turns in our favor, you yourselves will have the edification of seeing the specious majority which you secured this spring whirled away like so many bubbles to make a fine display of foam on the top of the successful wave of opposition.

One thing more before we admit this chapter in College history closed, and in saying it I feel confident that I am concurring with my friend who has contributed on the same subject from another point of view; and that is that the contest has been a strong one, a fair one and a most enjoyable one on both sides. We have become familiar with men that we might otherwise never have known, and we have discovered quali-