

since the destruction of its printing house by fire. The small type used in the February number admits of a greater variety of reading matter, and, with special reference to its opening pages, that issue well repays a careful perusal.

Mr. W. A. McKenzie, B.A., is the happy choice of the class of '84 for valedictorian. It is only three years since he enjoyed a similar honor in the university, and the memories of his humorous sallies and clever hits on that occasion still linger in the minds of many.

McGill is going to have another song book. All the available talent has been enlisted in the enterprise, and it is expected that a volume in every way superior to the former limp production will be the result. The movement is timely, and should be extended so as to embrace some attempt to improve the singing at convocations and other public meetings. "To the ears of Freshmen," remarked the *McGill Gazette* not long ago, "'The Bulldog,' 'Litoria' and 'Alouette' are delightful; but to those who have emerged from that hobbled-hoy stage of existence, and, as a consequence, have heard these songs not less than hundreds of times, they become more wearisome than the music of 'Patience' or any other hackneyed operas to the general public." No doubt this state of affairs will be materially remedied by the appearance of the new song book, but, as an incentive in that direction, it is to be hoped that the music for all the parts will accompany every song. Positively some sort of action is called for to subdue the earsplitting absence of harmony predominant in undergraduate street singing. Indeed, it might even be deemed a prudential measure to include the full score of the instrumental accompaniments to the choruses, in order that performers on the fish horn, who at present seem to play entirely from ear or memory, might thus be enabled to introduce their startling effects with greater scientific expertness.

Somehow the meetings of the Philosophical and Literary Society have been a failure this term. The attendance has all along been demoralized, and the debates and discussions spiritless in the extreme, of course excepting the few occasions on which "burning questions" of a local nature came up for consideration. The ordinary meeting on the 15th of February began with a very fair assembly, but ended with barely a quorum. A tedious discussion as to the method to be adopted in awarding prizes in reading led to much confusion. After several revolutionary schemes had been defeated, one member in the last throes of mental agony gave notice of motion to suspend the constitution. At this stage of the meeting the president and a large number of members retired to keep other engagements, and Mr. M. L. Leitch was voted to the chair. Mr. A. Lee, B.A., gave an English reading in a manner that revealed considerable dramatic ability, and Mr. E. F. Seylas gave another selection in French; after

which Mr. J. H. Graham, B.A., read a portion of his prize essay on Temperance, and the meeting adjourned.

#### SCRAPS ABOUT GRADUATES.

With the influx of visitors in Carnival week came a number of our graduates, such as Revs. W. M. McKibbin, M.A., '75, J. Munro, B.A., '79, J. B. Stewart, '82, and R. McNabb, B.A., '83, none of whom neglected to revisit the scenes of their student days, even though so many counter-attractions conspired to make them for the time oblivious of their Alma Mater's existence.

'76.—Rev. T. Bennet, of Carp, Ont., who left this institution in '76 as Gold Medallist, and John Redpath, Scholar in Theology, was presented on the 21st of January with an address and well filled purse. Mr. Bennet, we hear, is very popular in that section of the country, and this is only one of the many expressions of regard received by him.

'79.—We are pleased to learn that the Rev. C. E. Amaron, M.A., of Three Rivers, has received an invitation to become Principal of a Theological school for training young men for French mission work. The call is from an important city in the United States. While we shall be sorry to lose Mr. Amaron, we are pleased to be able to make such a worthy contribution to the educational institutions of the United States.

'84.—Mr. A. Lee, a member of this year's graduating class, and who so ably edited the JOURNAL last session, was, not long ago, presented by the Russeltown Presbyterians with a splendid coon-skin coat and a purse of money. Mr. Lee has preached at Russeltown many times during his collegiate course, and his family are at present occupying the manse there. We believe steps are being taken to secure his ministrations as settled pastor.

'80.—The following is from the reports of Whitechurch, and Calvin Church, East Wawanosh, congregations, under the pastoral charge of Jas. A. Anderson, B.A., for the year ending December, 1883:—Number of families, 95; Communicants, 203; Added during year, 31; Removed, 10; Contributed to College Fund, \$62; Home Missions, \$73; Foreign, \$72; French Evangelization, \$40; Aged and Infirm Ministers, \$16; Widows and Orphans, \$8; Assembly Fund, \$7; Other benevolent objects, \$26; Total for all purposes, \$2,577. During the year the minister's salary was raised \$100.

#### OUTSIDE NEWS AND OPINION.

The *L'Espresso* has its gibe at the self-sufficient English lecturer;—"Matthew Arnold does not believe in numbers—they do not attend his lectures."

It is rumored that a benefactor, whose name is not yet revealed, intends to build a Science Hall for McGill similar to the Redpath Museum.