

mittee, and an interested, and actively co-operating audience.

At the second meeting of the Senior Debating Society the subject for discussion was: Resolved, that the American Congress acted unwisely in passing the McKinley Bill. J. P. Collins and L. Kehoe argued for the affirmative, and C. C. Delaney and F. Owens, for the negative. The subject was well discussed and proved sufficiently interesting to bring several members from the house to the floor, one of whom delivered a very moral and statistical discussion on the relative merits of divorce law in Canada and the United States. He seemed to imply that a stringent McKinley Bill affecting divorce, would be much more desirable in the United States than the present one restricting trade. The decision was given in favor of the affirmative.

At the next meeting, A. Newman and J. Meagher successfully contended that under the present circumstances, Parnell should resign, while F. McDougal and A. White ably defended the weaker negative. The debate showed that the students are well acquainted with and take much interest in the present complicated state of Irish affairs.

SCIENTIFIC.

On December 31st, it fell to the lot of the Junior Philosophers to uphold the reputation of their class in scientific matters, and, accordingly, a *séance*, under the direction of Rev. Fr. Gauvreau, was held in the science lecture room. Mr. C. A. McCarthy occupied the chair, and, after opening the meeting with a few well chosen remarks, introduced Mr. D. Murphy, who read the first paper "Balloons and Ballooning." Mr. Murphy read a most interesting history of the progress of the balloon and the art of its management, and convinced his audience that in the near future they are likely to see balloons traversing the air as easily as ships now move over the water. Not the least pleasing feature of Mr. Murphy's work was its elegance of composition.

The next paper was on "The Possibility of Perpetual Motion," by Mr. C. D. Gaudet. The writer advanced most clearly every argument favoring his views, and if he did not succeed in convincing his hear-

ers that perpetual motion is possible, it was not his, but his subject's fault. However, he had one irrefutable argument. According to the generally accepted definition, motion is considered perpetual, if it lasts as long as the machine lasts, and arguing from this Mr. Gaudet astounded the meeting by declaring that he knew where perpetual motion existed, but, through regard for the weaker sex, we must refrain from divulging his theory.

Mr. J. P. Collins then read the last paper, "Perpetual Motion is Impossible," in which he gave a history of the popular fallacy, described by means of illustration the uselessness of any hitherto constructed machine, and demonstrated that many physical laws, now commonly accepted, must first be proved false before perpetual motion can be considered possible. The papers read received much deserved encomium at the hands of those who assisted at this very interesting and instructive *séance*.

SODALITY.

At the annual election of the officers of the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin, the following gentlemen were elected:—Prefect, C. C. Delaney; 1st Assistant, D. Murphy; 2nd Assistant, D. Masson; Secretary, L. Raymond. Treasurer, F. French; Sacristans, J. French and A. Archambeault; Councillors, M. F. Fitzpatrick, C. Gaudet, A. Newman, F. Owens. The Sodality has a larger membership than ever, all the meetings being well attended. Rev. Father Nolin, O.M.I., still occupies his old position of Director, and here, as at the head of the Debating Society, is doing a work which will leave its impress on the students long after they have left the University.

THE FRENCH DEBATING SOCIETY.

Since its organization this society has held several meetings. From the large number of members present and from the great amount of goodwill and enthusiasm manifested, it is safe to predict many interesting and enjoyable evenings.

At the last debate, the following question was discussed: "Which of Germany or of France has exercised the greater in-