

Grant, Ottawa; J. F. Torrance, Beauce; Rev. R. Lang Halifax, and Rev. E. I. Rexford, Quebec.

Amongst those present were several of the Representative Fellows. Dr. F. W. Kelley gave a short report of University matters particularly interesting to the members. On motion of Prof. McLeod the incoming committee were instructed to make a change in the method of nominating Representative Fellows. Mr. Sproule thought that the voters fee of fifty cents was a nuisance and ought to be abolished. He considered that otherwise they would never have a true representation of the graduates. After some discussion a motion was carried requesting the authorities to reduce the commutation fee from ten to five dollars. Mr. Fraser Torrance proposed a motion to the effect that when the next vacancy occurs upon the Board of Governors those with whom the choice lies should consider whether there is not some graduate of the University who would suitably fill the place. Mr. Torrance supported his motion in a forcible speech in which he drew attention to the improper way in which professors are at present appointed. After some other questions had been discussed the meeting adjourned.

During the past year little or nothing has been done by the Society, and we hope that in the coming year it will display more signs of life.

### Societies.

#### UNIVERSITY LITERARY SOCIETY.

The last of the season's public debates given by the University Literary Society was held in the Wm. Molson Hall on the evening of the 14th inst., and was an unqualified success. The attendance was large and the speeches were good. The chair was filled by Mr. A. McGoun, President of the Society, and Sir Wm. Dawson and Prof. Johnson occupied seats on the platform. We regret exceedingly that pressure of other matter prevents us from giving even a synopsis of the discussion which was on one of the most interesting questions of the day—"Should Great Britain establish a protectorate over the Soudan?"

The debate was opened by Mr. Oughtred in an eloquent speech in which he referred to the close connection of the Soudan with Egypt, the splendor of whose glory dated back to the day—"before Carthage was and when Rome was not." He maintained that for the protection of the Suez Canal and for the welfare of Egypt it was necessary that England should undertake the government of this country; that such a course would result beneficially to her own commercial interests, and he appealed to his audience to say if it was not desirable that England should lift these people out of the depth of barbarism to which they had fallen to a higher state of civilization even than that which they had previously enjoyed.

Mr. Brooke on the negative took the ground that the present critical state of European affairs rendered it imperative for England to use the utmost caution in avoiding all unnecessary entanglements, and that Great Britain had persistently refused to assume any re-

sponsibility for the government of this country. He entered at length into a description of the country and the difficulties which would be incurred by a European nation in effecting the subjugation and control of so vast and inhospitable a region, and reviewed the causes which led to the present complications in Egypt and the Soudan, and asserted the rights of the Soudanese to govern themselves in their own way, denouncing the argument of his opponent that it was necessary for the honor and prestige of England that she should persist in a cruel and unjust war for the display of her own might.

Mr. Mackie followed replying to the arguments of the last speaker and holding that the suppression of the slave traffic could only be effected by the means proposed and making a stirring appeal to the sympathy and patriotism of his hearers. Mr. Cross in a short but pithy and sarcastic speech contended that the affirmative had wholly failed to make out a case, that their plans were defective and their arguments were bad. He ridiculed the grounds taken by the affirmative that the subjugation of the Soudan was necessary for the welfare of Egypt and the safety of the Suez Canal, or that the cause of humanity demanded the slaughter of thousands of Arabs and British for the sake of putting down the slave traffic.

The opener of the debate then summed up in a caustic reply to the arguments of his opponents and on the question being put to the vote it was decided in favor of the affirmative by what was rather a large majority.

### Between the Lectures.

Bills of long standing and trousers of long sitting are better receipted.

"What is laughter?" asks a chemist. It is the sound that you hear when your hat blows off.

A Boston girl is considered accomplished when she can sneeze without dropping off her eye-glasses.

Grubber: "what could this chicken have lived on to make it so tough?" Punster: "It lived on from year to year."

Why is it so much prominence is given to women now-a-days? She was nothing but a "side-issue" in Adam's time.

Descarte's "Law of Signs," *Tech* version. "Drop them quietly over a front yard fence, if you meet a 'cop' on your way home."

Yale has organized an anti-swearing society—at least, so say the newspapers,—in which the penalty for swearing is the payment of drinks for the whole society.—*Crimson*.

They were in the wood. Said he, looking things unutterable, "I wish I were a fern, Gussie." "Why?" she asked. "Why—p'raps you—might—press me, too." She evidently hated to do it, but it is best to nip such things in the bud; so she replied, "I'm afraid you're too green, Charley." The poor boy almost blubbered.—*Ez*.