

The Varsity

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY MORNING DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR, IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

BY

THE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

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All literary contributions and items of College news should be addressed to THE EDITOR, University College, Toronto.

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The office of THE VARSITY is at the corner of Spadina avenue and College street, rooms 3 and 5, Bank of Commerce Building.

Anonymous contributions will be published if approved by the Editor.

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OCTOBER 14, 1890.

THE OPENING DEBATE.

THE Literary Society held a meeting on Friday, the 10th, in the Y.M.C.A. Hall, with the First Vice-President, Mr. C. A. Stuart, in the chair. As it was the first meeting of the year, there were no motions for discussion on the order-list, and the Society might almost have been taken for a "literary society" in the sense in which the term is used in the dialect of more ordinary and commonplace humanity. The attendance was remarkably large, and the proceedings aroused strong interest throughout.

After the yells of triumph had died away, with which the minutes of the last meeting (held in St. Andrew's Hall) were greeted, the Society proceeded with little delay to the literary programme. Music was called for, and after an anxious interval the blushing Glee Club was induced to quit its respective seats in the back row and favour the meeting with "The Poachers of Lincolnshire" and "Kingdom Coming." They retired amidst applause and left the way open for the debate. The subject discussed was, "Resolved that efforts should be directed towards the realization of nationization as depicted in Edward Bellamy's 'Looking Backward.'" Messrs. A. J. Hunter and J. M. Godfrey opened the question for the affirmative and

negative respectively, in speeches of more than ordinary excellence, and the debate was then thrown open to the meeting. A warm and lively discussion ensued, in which Messrs. Naylor, Odell, Knox, Clarke, Swanson, Reeves, and the shade of Daniel Webster participated freely.

The debate was still hot and exciting when the lateness of the hour compelled the chairman to bring it to a close. Messrs. Houston and King, former presidents of the Society, who had taken seats on the platform at the request of the chairman, then addressed a few words to the meeting—words eagerly listened to and lovingly remembered; after which Mr. Stuart briefly summed up the debate and put it to a vote, the negative being victorious by a majority of one: thirty-nine to thirty-eight.

After the debate a number of minor motions and matters of business came up, giving occasion for much amusing and ingenious oratory. On the recommendation of the General Committee it was resolved almost unanimously to devote three meetings of the term to a Mock Parliament. Appointments to THE VARSITY Directorate were confirmed. The resignation of Mr. Duff, the President elect, was received, and accepted with regret, and other smaller matters were attended to.

In accordance with Mr. A. M. Stewart's motion, also passed at this meeting, all notices of motion will be found given in full each week in THE VARSITY, to which announcement the attention of our readers is most earnestly recommended if they desire to be informed of the question of student interest to come up at each meeting.

Among the visitors to the Society were Messrs W. F. MacLean, of the *World*, and L. E. Embree, of the Parkdale Collegiate Institute, both members of the Senate. We appreciated their visit even if we were unable to hear any remarks from them.

EXCHANGES.

The *Harvard Daily Crimson* was the first arrival at our sanctum. It is as newsy as of yore.

We repeat our invitation of last week to our *confères* to favour us with copies of their journals, and we will at once reciprocate.

The *Illini* represents the University of Illinois. It is bright and newsy, thoroughly American in its tone, and contains some very fair literary work.

Hermes, a monthly magazine, comes from the University of Sydney, New South Wales. It presents some interesting features—illustrated jokes (no doubt intended for freshmen), and beneath the heading of each department of the paper Johnson's definition of the heading. Sports are in a flourishing condition, and a dramatic club, boasting vice-regal patronage, is a prominent feature of University life there. Sydney is evidently a go-ahead University, but the literary side of *Hermes* is not quite up to the Canadian standard.

Two new prizes in English have been recently established at Princeton by the class of '70. The income of \$1,000 will be given to that member of the Sophomore class, who at the close of the Sophomore year, shall pass the best examination in the English studies of the year. Of the income of \$1,500, one half will be given to the best Anglo-Saxon scholar and one half to the best English Literature scholar of the Junior class.