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Editorials.

THE B. A. BILL.

Mr. Charles S. Burroughs, one of the two English-speaking lawyers who voted in favour of a resolution of the Bar, condemning the "B. A." Bill, in a letter to the *Montreal Gazette* of the 1st of February, attempts a defence of what he would style the "vested rights of the Bar." Mr. Burroughs' contention is that the power to examine all candidates for admission to study is a right conferred upon the Bar with its incorporation, and of which it should not be deprived

as long as it "fulfils the laws of its existence and carries out the objects for which it was incorporated." Mr. Burroughs must reflect that the examining power was given as a test to be applied in cases where there might be any sort of doubt of the fitness of the candidate, and not as a means of insulting and degrading the Universities of the country whose fitness as teachers and examiners has been demonstrated beyond all doubt. If so doing can be construed to be a part of the fulfilment of the laws of its existence, and the carrying out of the objects of its incorporation on the part of the Bar, it must still be remembered that the Legislature has vested rights of other equally important bodies to recognize, and can clearly define within what limits the Bar shall exercise its examining powers.

UNIVERSITY LITERARY SOCIETY.

Voluntary institutions may, in general, be said to lead a more or less uncertain existence. Ushered in with a wave of enthusiasm and upborne from time to time with spasmodic feelings of interest, they finally dwindle out of life altogether and their memory lives only in the reminiscences cherished by their scattered supporters. Time, altering men and conditions, gives to the lives of many most worthy societies that measure of uncertainty, which is the great problem and the vexed question in the minds of all who look to the voluntary association of individuals as a means of attaining some of the higher qualities of thinking and progressive men. While we would be far from stating that the University Literary Society has reached that stage in its existence when it may soon be expected to "go out" altogether, yet the present experience that the Society is undergoing well warrants the uneasiness that exists in the minds of its well wishers, as to how long, with its present support, it may be able to protract its being. The Society has a noble record, and among its list of past officers and members are to be found the names of men foremost in the walks of life: careful discussions have taken place by the hundred under its auspices, and the majority of leading questions of the past and present have received no little light from the deliberations of its members. Papers, often masterly and deeply thought out, have investigated many a social problem,