

## THE CONVERSAZIONE.

Last evening the annual conversazione of the Literary and Scientific Society was held in the buildings of University College. Notwithstanding the fact that Lent had already begun, the corridors and Convocation Hall were filled with as large an assemblage as has ever been gathered together under the same auspices. All conversaziones are more or less alike, and it is needless to describe this year's event at any great length. Suffice it to say that the same order of things prevailed, the same style of decorations were used, the same kind of experiments were performed by the science students, the usual special displays were made, the same crush in the hall occurred, and the same charming *ensemble* of academic seriousness and society splendour rendered the whole scene as brilliant and pleasant as in former years.

The musical portion of the entertainment was under the direction of Mr. W. Elliott Haslam, the conductor of the Glee Club. The following programme was rendered:—

## PART I.

1. Glee—"The Winds Whistle Cold (Guy Mannering)..." *Sir H. Bishop*  
GLEE CLUB.
2. Flute Solo—"Rimembranza Napolitane"..... *Paggi*  
MR. J. CHURCHILL ARLIDGE.
3. Reading—"Spartacus to the Gladiators"..... *Kellogg*  
MISS AGNES KNOX.
4. Romanza—"Spirto Gentil" (La Favorita)..... *Donizetti*  
MR. GUSTAVE THALBERG.
5. Part Song—"Four Jolly Smiths"..... *Henry Leslie*  
GLEE CLUB.
6. Violin Solo—"Fantaisie Caprice"..... *Vieuxtemps*  
MRS. ADAMSON.
7. Quartette — (a) "Forsaken"..... *Koschat*  
(b) "Softly, Softly"..... *Chevalier de Seyfried*  
MESSRS. MERCER, C. W. GORDON, HAMILTON AND G. GORDON.
8. Song—"The Message"..... *Blumenthal*  
MISS ANNA HOWDEN.
9. College Chorus—"The Freshman's Fate".....  
GLEE CLUB.

## PART II.

1. College Chorus—"Funiculi Funicula"..... *Denza*  
GLEE CLUB.
2. Melodie—"Verrei Morir"..... *Tosti*  
MR. GUSTAVE THALBERG.
3. Flute Solo—"Du du liegst" (by desire)..... *Boehm*  
MR. J. CHURCHILL ARLIDGE.
4. Reading—"Lasca"..... *Despres*  
MISS AGNES KNOX.
5. Bolero—"Leggero Invisibile"..... *Arditi*  
MISS ANNA HOWDEN.
6. Violin Solo—"Legende"..... *Wieniawski*  
MRS. ADAMSON.
7. Song—"Swedish Air".....  
MR. GUSTAVE THALBERG.
8. Ballad—"Margarita's Three Bouquets"..... *Braga*  
MISS ANNA HOWDEN.

Mr. Gustave Thalberg, a Swede lately arrived in this country, is a new tenor of much promise and made his first appearance in public last night. Mr. Thalberg possesses a very sweet voice, of good compass, and sings with expression and taste. We understand that he will remain in Toronto, and in that case he will prove quite an acquisition, as our stock of tenors is very limited. Miss Howden is already a great favorite in Toronto, and sang her numbers in a charming manner. Mrs. Adamson sustained her well-earned reputation as a skilful violinist, and played her selections most artistically. Mr. Arlidge is *facile princeps* among flautists who have played in Toronto; he furnished an *obligato* to Miss Howden's rendering of Braga's "Marguerite" with his usual taste and discrimination. Miss Knox, who is comparatively a stranger to Toronto, showed herself to be possessed of considerable dramatic ability, and was very successful in pleasing her audience. The Glee Club showed up in good form, and though small in numbers, showed careful preparation and filled its part of the programme most acceptably. Messrs. Mercer, Hamilton and the Gordons sang two quartettes in a finished manner. Mr. Haslam conducted in an able manner. Taking everything into consideration, the Musical Committee may congratulate itself upon the result of the evening, so far as the music was considered. The only unfortunate thing which happened during the evening, occurred in the east dressing room, where the scenes of the conversazione of '85 were re-enacted with more than usual vigour. This was no doubt the result of the very large attendance—the largest for years—and the Committee cannot be held responsible for the failure of the arrangements. THE VARSITY will be happy to insert advertisements for lost dry goods free of charge during the next week.

The band of the Royal Grenadiers, under Mr. Toulmin, played during the evening in the entrance hall; and in the Museum, Seager's orchestra made that old curiosity shop assume an unaccustomed levity under the dreamy spell of Waldteufel and Suppé.

THE ENGINEERING SOCIETY.—The regular meeting of the Engineering Society was held yesterday afternoon in the School of Science, Professor Galbraith presiding. An exhaustive paper, written by J. L. Morris, C. E., on "Act pertaining to Land Surveyors and the Survey of Lands," was read. Mr. Morris has evidently had a wide experience, and points out and elucidates many apparent contradictions in the act. The steadily increasing library of this Society received another valuable addition, the gift of Colonel Gzowski. This, the second addition from the same source, consists of a large number of works containing the latest and most reliable information concerning recent engineering experiments.

Y. M. C. A.—At the regular Thursday afternoon meeting the students had the pleasure of listening to an excellent address given by Pastor Denovan. The address was an answer to the question, How can I make the most of my life? The speaker sketched in his most attractive style the progress of society throughout the Christian era, showing that the increase of population has actually outrun the result of Christian effort. The strength of young men was referred to in a manner eminently calculated to stimulate the vigor of all present. Mr. D. R. Keys presided at the meeting and on behalf of the Association thanked the speaker for his able address. The hearty applause which followed Mr. Keys' remarks showed how well the address was received.

A number of mass meetings of a missionary character will be held in the Y. M. C. A. building between Saturday (Feb. 26) and Tuesday. They will be conducted by Mr. Forman, a graduate of Princeton, who, previous to leaving for China, is making a visit to the leading American colleges, for the purpose of advocating the cause of missions. He has met with very great success in every college he has visited. The meetings arranged so far are Saturday at 3 p.m., Sunday at 8.30 p.m., Monday at 8 p.m. All the students in any way connected with the University are cordially invited. In addition to these an informal conference with Mr. Forman will be held on Monday from 10 a.m. to 12. Any changes that may be necessary will be announced on the Bulletin Board.

Women are now admitted as students in the Imperial University at Tokio, Japan.

It is stated that the editors of the new Harvard song book are to be prosecuted at law for publishing copyrighted songs.

Leyden University, in Holland, is the richest in the world. Its real estate alone is said to be worth four million dollars.—*Ex.*

## ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE VARSITY is conducted by undergraduates of the University of Toronto, and will appear every Saturday of the academic year. It aims at being the exponent of the views of the University public and will always seek the highest interests of our University. The Literary Department will, as heretofore, be a main feature. The news columns are full and accurate, containing reports of all meetings of interest to its readers.

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