

and was deservedly encored, as was also Mr. Mercer, whose solo, "Forty Years On," was taken from the new song book of Toronto University. Mr. T. T. Norgate read an essay on "Spinsters and Bachelors," which was of a decidedly humorous strain in its descriptions of the various species of these two classes that one meets with. The musical portion of the programme was completed by the Varsity Glee Club's rendition of the "Image of the Rose." This number was much better sung than their first glee, and well earned the encore which was given the members, who replied with a rollicking College song.

The debate was then commenced on the subject:—

Resolved, "That war has been on the whole beneficial to the race." Trinity maintained the affirmative side, in the persons of Messrs. E. C. Cayley and Bousfield, while Messrs. G. A. H. Fraser and Fenton supported the negative view of the question.

Mr. Cayley opened the debate in a speech full of deep thought and logical conclusion. Unfortunately he indulged in a preliminary introduction, which, owing to the limited time of fifteen minutes allowed each speaker, compelled him to condense one of his most important arguments into a minute or two at the end. He maintained that civilized life was the outcome of war, and that the grand civilization of the Empires of past history was due to the great conquests which they had achieved. The evils of war lie on the surface but its advantages take deep root at the heart of every nation and in benefitting a people as a whole, benefit the individual. War is the mainspring of the literature and arts of every nation; the greatest literary ages of the world, the golden era of the Greek, the Augustan age of the Roman, and the Elizabethan period of the English literatures were the outgrowth of successful contests. In an eloquent conclusion Mr. Cayley claimed that the characters of nations and their great men were refined and inspirited by war, while peace had the tendency of making them selfish and corrupt.

Mr. Fraser, the first speaker on the negative, in a speech which was much admired for its ready fluency and its excellent specimens of English, narrated the evils which war inflicts. He described the destruction of life, the sickness and disease that follow in the train of war, and alleged that it was one of the greatest scourges that ever happened to the human race. The destruction of commerce, the national debts, and the heavy taxations are also the results of long contests. The useful arts and education are interrupted by wars, and as in the case of Abyssinia, a tendency to barbarism is the effect. Wars are prejudicial to freedom, and by no other means could the tyrannies of Cæsar, Cromwell, and Napoleon, have been upheld. Finally, war arouses the worst passions of men, and leaves behind demoralizing effects.

Mr. Bousfield supported his leader in the debate, and answered the arguments of the first speaker on the negative. He referred to the beneficial effects that war had

on particular countries, especially Egypt, which in peace reposed enervated in vice, but in war was prosperous and invigorated. Mr. Bousfield, however, did not speak with his usual readiness and wit, owing doubtless to the vast size of the subject.

Mr. Fenton, who has an animated style of speaking that attracts one's attention, employed himself in trying to refute the arguments of Affirmative. He asserted that the great literatures of the world were merely coincident with, but did not result from, war; and claimed that if war was beneficial to the nation, it would be beneficial to the district and village, and thus there should be continual wars.

Mr. Cayley, in his five minutes' reply, ably answered this last argument, by likening war to food which was beneficial to man, but was not so when indulged in to excess.

The chairman, in summing up, gave his decision in favour of the arguments of the negative, and referred to an International Court for the decision of conflicting questions. After a vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed by the debaters, the meeting dispersed.

NOTES.

While the University Glee Club was waiting for a street car some officious policeman came up and told them to "move on," although there was not the slightest disturbance among them. Although one of the members told him they were waiting for a car, with elephantine stupidity he marched Mr. Newton Kent, the leader of the Club, to the police station. The Glee Club was thus deprived of the services of their leader at the debate.

The speech of the leader of the affirmative was a splendid specimen of close and accurate reasoning, and for eloquence and power, was the event of the debate.

After the debate the Glee Club was entertained in the reading room.

The feeling of the audience seemed to be in favour of the affirmative, and the Chairman's decision was criticized by several. It was thought the decision was given as if the subject read "is" instead of "has been beneficial." The effects which the negative showed as attendant upon war, could not be considered as lasting as the benefits which the affirmative proved to accrue from war.

The essayist with elegant grace and gallantry performed his duty of handing up to the platform the ladies who took part in the programme.

LITERARY NOTES.

In the December number of "The Century," Prof. Shields has an article on the "United Churches of the United States," being a reply to some of the remarks which his former article on the same subject, in "The Century," for November, 1885, called forth. It is well worth careful reading by those who are interested in this much discussed topic of Church Union. And who is not?