

### The Ralph M. Hunt, Oratorical Contest.

THE Oratorical Contest this year, which took place Friday evening, April twenty-eighth, excited the usual amount of interest and abundantly fulfilled the usual expectations. Two prizes were offered, the Ralph M. Hunt prize of twenty-five dollars, and a second prize of ten dollars offered by the class of Nineteen-Ten. The contestants were Messrs C. A. Dawson, Junior, and C. A. Britten, L. V. Margeson and T. S. Roy, Seniors. The Judges were Rev. Mr. Miller and Dr. Archibald of Wolfville, and Rev. Dr. Borden of Grand Pre. Dr. Cutten presided.

"Joseph Mazzini" was the subject of the oration presented by the first speaker, Mr. Dawson. The youth of Mazzini, his devotion to liberty, his leadership of "Young Italy" under the motto, "God and the People,"—all were set forth calmly and clearly. And when the speaker told of Mazzini's banishment, his struggles in old age, his apparent failure, but real success, the audience felt with orator the essential heroism and nobility of the great Italian patriot.

Mr. Dawson was somewhat lacking in fire and enthusiasm, but his presentation was marked by a depth of feeling and sincerity of purpose whose effect was lasting. He more than justified the high expectations of the college, and showed himself to be a powerful speaker whose successful future is assured.

Mr. Britten, the second speaker, took for his subject "Conscience," which he defined as that faculty in man which distinguishes between right and wrong. He described the power of conscience, and made a splendid dramatic portrayal of the inward torture of the man who has done wilful wrong. For illustrations, he used the characters of Cain and of Byron's Manfred, the tense description of whose emotions, gripped and moved the audience. There is one remedy for an outraged conscience,—confession. This the speaker showed by an excellent description of the scaffold scene from Hawthorne's "Scarlet Letter."