

PRESIDENT BLACK EXPLAINS.

Editor of VARSITY:

In the columns of your last issue I notice a report of the last meeting of the Women's Literary Society, in which report the officers of the Glee Club are placed in a light which is as unfair as it is unhappy, and though I am reluctant to comment upon a matter originally so trivial, yet out of justice to the Glee Club I feel called upon to protect its officers from being misunderstood by your many readers, and I trust I shall not be considered unjust or ungallant in so doing.

In the first place, since the matter was one of purely local importance, concerning only a very small portion of the undergraduate body, namely, the officers of the Women's Literary Society and the Glee Club, and, indirectly, the members of each organization, and since the majority of the officers and members of each organization were quite familiar with the circumstances, I see no reason why it should have been commented upon or even mentioned in the columns of VARSITY, unless the writer did so with some vindictive purpose, and such a purpose is, I think, quite beneath the dignity of any member of either of the above-mentioned organizations. On this account I cannot but think that the writer of the report must have voiced her own opinions and not the opinion of the Women's Literary Society.

What appeared to me to be absurd, if not almost impertinent, was the assertion, "it seemed especially annoying that the Society had not been notified." We will all readily concede that the circumstances were most awkward and most unfortunate, and could not possibly be more regretted by the officers of the Literary Society than by the officers of the Glee Club, yet (and I am sorry to have to mention it, since it seems like hinting our generosity) does it seem reasonable that we should notify the Society that we desired to have the use of that which was already ours to give and to use? However, had we known in time, I am sure we would not have been such monsters of depravity as not to have done so.

Furthermore, since we were not aware of the conflict of arrangements until 7 p.m., we had neither time to change our rehearsal nor to notify the Society, and at that late hour we could not possibly obtain another piano to meet the requirements of such an emergency, a thing which we would much rather have done than to have caused such unpleasantness as has resulted. As it was, we did our best to meet the requirements of the case. The Society certainly had a right to the hall. We used the other part of the building and an isolated entrance in order, as far as possible, to avoid any interference with the Society's meeting. It is humiliating to be forced to relate the minute details of business in order to establish the fact that our rehearsal was necessary (our word of honor should have sufficed), but for the benefit of the more skeptical let me explain that it was our only chance for a rehearsal with Mr. Dinelli, our accompanist, since that gentleman is a man of almost innumerable engagements. Hence, will be understood the necessity of the rehearsal, and it so happened that he was late in coming, but that was something beyond our control.

After all, the Women's Literary Society and the Glee Club are two organizations of a common undergraduate body. Could it be any gain for one organization to place any obstacle in the way of the other? Would any individual of either organization voluntarily commit such a wanton offence? Surely not. Then why should the writer of the report desire to publicly criticize in the columns of

VARSITY? The officers of the Glee Club have never even suggested that the Women's Literary Society was under any particular obligation to them for the use of the piano, nor do they wish to be understood as suggesting it, even under the present circumstances; but when subjected to uncalled-for and public criticism as the result of a slight disappointment (the unavoidable consequence of an emergency), I am quite sure they are perfectly justified in resenting such a criticism. As this is the first occasion upon which any friction has occurred I trust it shall also be the last. The officers of the Club have upon different occasions been delightfully entertained by the Society, and remain grateful for the same.

The Society is still welcome to the use of the piano, since one piano has heretofore been quite sufficient for all societies, and provided they do their duty to each other in the matter of co-operation one instrument shall still be quite sufficient. I feel assured that these societies, considering their relation to the Glee Club, will bear with it, and should its officers at any future time *justly* deserve it, they will, after giving the matter cool and more mature consideration, spare such officers the punishment of a public censure in the columns of VARSITY. After all the officers are only common mortals and cannot work miracles, and if once in three or four years they should cause any unavoidable disappointment I am quite sure that they can trust the disappointed parties to deal with them leniently, and to keep the matter within the limits of the organization concerned.

In conclusion, let me express personally my regret that the disappointment happened, the more especially on account of the extra arrangements and the many friends of the Society who were present, and let me also express the hope that the report which appeared was the opinion of but one, or at most, but few of the members of the Women's Literary Society.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for the space with which you have favored me, I remain

Yours truly,

G. H. BLACK.

AN INTERESTING DISCOVERY.

Editor of VARSITY:

The following fragment picked up in a corridor, having found no owner, is given to the public herewith. It is evidently an epilogue to the Year Book, but the torn condition of the paper prevents one from completely deciphering the contents. The class will regret along with me that the lost manuscript was not found in time for insertion.

"This book is the work of a few students only. Those living in [word torn out] have done it all themselves, and have not neglected the opportunity to attack personal enemies, as well as praise up personal friends. The management have heard that one man should not sit in judgment on another in the name of a class, unless authority to do it has been delegated to him by the class. Here we throw ourselves on the mercy of the readers. For we were elected mostly by means of [words torn out]. Some one has said, you may tell what one man's character is by hearing what he has to say about others. We don't believe it, and so have spoken freely. The jokes are supposed to be [word torn out]. The serious side of the consequences of this book never struck us till now. It is too late to unsay many thoughtless things, but one will see at a glance that we are not responsible. . . ." The rest is incoherent.

A MEMBER OF THE CLASS OF '98.