

## FRIENDSHIPS.

"When a man cannot fitly play his own part, if he have not a friend he may quit the stage."—Bacon.

THERE is a vast difference between an acquaintance and a friend. Of the former we have many, but of the latter few indeed. We meet and come to know new men almost every day, but the gaining of a friend comes but seldom, and the day on which one comes to us is one to be remembered. We are continually losing sight of those we have known, and their going causes us no special grief; but the loss of a friend is an event always attended by sorrow. A friend is one whom we know and understand through and through, but we cannot know every man. There is a side of the character which is presented to the world and one which is hidden. A man's views on popular subjects and his ordinary prejudices are revealed to all men, and by these he is generally known. The truer self, however, what the man is at heart and all that he hopes to be, the nobler aspirations and the diviner thoughts—all these are held far too sacred for the ordinary man to see. And thus it is that we may meet men on the street or campus, or in the lecture-room, may study and sport with them, and yet not for a moment is the curtain of reserve withdrawn which guards the sacred secrets of their lives. We cannot always judge a man by what appears on the surface, for it is often the case that the man who is worth the most has kept the best back.

Those who gain the closest friends are not necessarily the ones of frank and genial disposition, for the man of this character spreads the riches of his friendship over many, holding all as comrades and companions, but few as friends. The energy of the heart is dispersed, not focussed. The friends of the quieter and more reserved man are not many, but the bond is strong between them. Such a one does not open his heart to all indiscriminately, but when he has found a kindred soul he lavishes the wealth of his life upon it.

Aristotle says that "whosoever is delighted in solitude is either a beast or a god," and truly we often estimate very inaccurately the value of friendship. Take from a man all the sympathy of his friends, and you have deprived him of a motive for living. His pleasure is worth little to him unless there is someone to share it. His success pleases him only through the pleasure it brings to those who are esteemed by him. One is influenced far more than he imagines by the opinion others have of him, and will not a man make almost superhuman efforts to avert failure if he knows that a certain other man believes in his power to succeed?

The undergraduate days are particularly rich in new friendships, and in those, moreover, which are not the result of circumstance merely, but which come from the meeting of kindred spirits. There comes to us here the opening of a new and larger life, when we have outgrown old thoughts, old views and old ideals, and have put them behind us forever. This passing of the old life must necessarily affect the old friendships, for they were part of this life. Not that these old friends will ever be forgotten, but our

Lives henceforth have separate ends,  
And never can be one again.

Just as the old life in passing bears away with it the old friendships, so the new and more glorious life brings with it new friendships, and these will not pass away. In these days we are for the first time settling definitely into that channel which will contain our whole after life, and those who fit our natures now should continue to do so, for, in a general measure, the aims and ideas of those we choose here as friends are alike, and as we grow, so will they.

N. T. W.

## THE NIAGARA FALLS EXCURSION.

THE School of Practical Science excursion to Niagara Falls took place on Saturday, the 8th inst., the special train leaving Union station at 6.50 a.m. and arriving at Niagara Falls two hours later. In addition to the Principal and Faculty of the School, and Drs. Allan and Kenrick, of University College, upwards of one hundred and seventy-five School men and a number from other Faculties availed themselves of the opportunity to visit the varied engineering works and industrial establishments there, either completed or in process of construction. When the train arrived at our western suburb, sometimes designated Hamilton, the excursionists alighted and the villagers were treated to a feast of mellifluous melody from the School instrumental band. Here, too, an opportunity was given to pass upon the merits of the new School yell.

Arriving at its destination, the party was divided into six groups, each in charge of one or more of the members of the Faculty, the following being the points of interest visited: The Ontario Power Co., the Canadian Niagara Power Co., the Niagara Falls Railway Power Plant, the town waterworks, the Niagara Falls Power Co., the Hydraulic Power Co., the Natural Food Co., the International Graphite Works, the Carborundum Works, and the Lead Reduction and Carbide Industries. In addition, Dr. Coleman took a party on a geological trip down the gorge and river as far as Queenston.

Luncheon and dinner were served at the Lafayette hotel, the latter at 7 p.m., at which a number of prominent resident guests were present. After the toast to "The King" had been proposed by the Principal in his usual happy style, and duly honored, brief addresses were made by Messrs. Smith, Mitchell, Symmes and Rathery, all of whom were connected with the local development.

The return trip was unmarked by incident, save, perhaps, the summary trial and punishment of a member of the Victorian Order, whose conduct during the day, in the opinion of the School men, had made him sufficiently odious to merit the water cure.

To the efforts of the indefatigable committee, consisting of Professor Wright, and Messrs. Sinclair, Gaby, Manson and Morden, everything passed off in a way which, as we often say, left nothing to be desired, and which merited and received the thanks of one and all.

Messrs. Young, Wilson, and Larkworth, of the Third Year, spent Sunday in Buffalo.

## Y.M.C.A. NOTES.

Professor Wrong's address on "Student Virtues and Vices" will be delivered at this week's meeting, to be held on Wednesday at 5 o'clock instead of Thursday. The students' attention is called to this change in the day of the regular meeting for this week only.

This is the "Week of Prayer" observed by all the Y.M.C.A.'s of North America. The Association has arranged for three special meetings, to be held from 5.15 to 5.45 o'clock on Monday, Thursday and Friday afternoons, to be addressed by Messrs. W. T. Hallom, B.A., A. H. Abbott, B.A., and S. T. Martin, M.A., respectively. These half-hour meetings will be bright and helpful, and it is hoped that they will be largely attended.

The work among the boys "in the Ward" is progressing satisfactorily, and it is hoped that a start will be made east of the Don next week. The appeal for financial co-operation has been liberally responded to by friends outside of the University, and it is proposed in the near future to give the Undergraduates an opportunity of sharing in the financial obligations of the new undertaking.