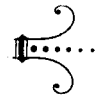




# QUEEN'S



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## Queen's University Journal

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ANYONE long privileged to attend Queen's cannot but have noticed the gradual, yet decided, change in the frequency and popularity of Class meetings. Three or four years ago each year in the College held its regular fortnightly meetings. Affording as it did, not only a chance to develop musical, literary and oratorical talent, but also to become more intimately acquainted with the members of his year no member of the class thought of being absent. As a consequence a strong healthy class spirit was developed. Each student believing his class the best in the University did his utmost to make it such. Those were the May days when college life blossomed out into song. But—a change has come over the spirit of the dream. At present class meetings are rarely held, and when they are instead of the old-time, attractive programme we have the noisy, tiresome wrangling between cliques. Class spirit, and as a consequence college spirit, has sobered down, is dying out. College glees are rarely heard, and when they are they but awaken old-time recollections. "The age of chivalry is gone," and we have become college drudges, interested in little else than plugging up for coming examinations. Let us at least hope that speedily things will take a decided change for the better.

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Whilst speaking of students' meetings, is it not timely to ask if it would not be better if our Y.M.C. As. and the Y.W.C.A. were not so exclusive? In

years gone by we were occasionally favored by addresses from the Principal, or from one of our Arts Professors, but in these later days we have become quite self-satisfied. A union meeting in Convocation hall of the three Christian associations, having a prearranged service of song and addressed by Principal Grant, by some of the Arts Professors, or even by a city minister acquainted with student life, would at least bring us all together, and in many ways might be helpful.

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We desire to call the attention of all students in Arts to the letter published in this issue by "Ex-Historian of '91." It is very probable that all the suggestions contained in the letter may not meet with approval, but they are at least pointed and positive, and are well worth discussion. The present difficulties in the Arts Society have been referred to by us in a former editorial, but although all agree in criticizing the state of affairs at present existing, there seems to be a singular dearth of ideas as to the line of reformation that should be adopted. The most radical change proposed by "Ex-Historian of '91" relates to the Concursus, and will be seen to be somewhat in line with an editorial criticism of that august body which appeared in the JOURNAL of Nov. 18th, 1893.

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"Study," said Sir Joshua Reynolds, "the works of the great masters for ever." Never was the advice more needed than in our day, when the time we have for reading is fritted away over innumerable newspapers, periodicals, novels, and other kinds of minced-meat, suited for children rather than for strong men. And of all the great masters none is so supremely worthy of study by Christians as Dante, because he as truly voiced the Christianity that was the soul of "ten silent centuries" and that is expressing itself with a thousand variations in modern life, as Homer voiced the religion that was the soul of old Greece. We are, therefore, grateful to Dr. Watson for having chosen Dante as the subject of "The Sandford Fleming Lectureship" this year, and for having indicated the best editions and translations of the works of the great master. The lectures will no doubt induce some to begin the study of the works independently, perhaps induce two or three to learn Italian, that they may drink at the