

The Owl.

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THE OWL is the journal of the students of the University of Ottawa. Its object is to aid the students in their literary development, to chronicle their doings in and out of class, and to unite more closely the students of the past and present to their Alma Mater.

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SEPARATE SCHOOLS AHEAD,

The Owl doffs its mortar-board and bows its thanks to its brother Catholic editors for the compliment they pay the musings of the "Bird of Wisdom." Imitation is more than approbation; it is the quintessence of flattery. True to its instincts, the "Bird of Night" reads when the world is enshrouded by darkness; many of the events that transpire in broad day-light might possibly remain undiscovered by the faint, feeble flickerings of our

tallow dip. The inexperience of youth—we are not yet in our teens—is our apology if we are mistaken in claiming that we were the first to employ synoptical, comparative tables, affording a bird's-eye view of the respective standing of Separate and Public Schools. Separate Schools were "out for bear" this year and eclipsed even the Collegiate institutes in the examinations for non-professional teachers. Never more let the old war-cry: "Down with Separate Schools! they are a farce," be heard in this fair province. The efficiency of the teacher and the proficiency of the student can be proved only by the success of the latter at the provincial examinations. The only argument that even the most expert can adduce from the Minister of Education's Report, to show that the Separate Schools are up to the standard is hard facts *alias* success at the departmental examinations. Philosophical reflections upon the superiority of Catholic methods of instructing the young may be very consoling; they will not pass muster with those who decry Separate Schools.

Without desiring to draw any sinister comparison, we might classify the opponents of our schools: Quakers, Agnostics and Infidels. To the Quakers, we would say: You do not believe in the principle of Separate Schools, still as *friends* to the cause of education you will rejoice with us that our schools have succeeded and wish us even greater