

Rouge et Noir.

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LENT TERM, 1885.

WITH this issue we enter upon the sixth year of publication with ROUGE ET NOIR placed upon a new basis, and one which we trust may be successful. We confidently expect the renewed support of our old subscribers and friends, and look forward to the hope that, with the awakened life of the College, every graduate will do something for this paper as the organ of Trinity. We call attention to the fact that two new pages of reading matter have been added to our columns, and that during the year contributions may be expected from the pens of the Rev. the Provost; the Rev. Professors Clark and Boys; J. Cunningham Dunlop, M. A., Rev. G. E. Haslam, M. A., Rev. A. G. Mortimer, B. D., Geo. A. Mackenzie, M. A., C. G. D. Roberts, M. A., J. E. Collins, Esq., Rev. A. Greaves, C. P. Mulvaney, M. D., H. K. Cockin, Esq., A. Lampman, B. A., J. A. Ritchie, Esq., Rev. T. B. Angell and others.

A FACT which we should like to call the attention of University authorities to would be the desire to furnish better examination papers in future—*better*, not in quality, which are already of sufficient difficulty to prevent a candidate successfully passing, but *better* in the sense of legibility and quantity. The present papers, copied by means of the papyrograph, would suffice for the Christmas College examinations, but for the University tests, the necessity for printed forms is rapidly growing greater each year. A student being handed the written paper finds often much difficulty in deciphering the queer specimens of chirography, besides the far greater fault of losing valuable time, and perhaps passing over a question which is half understood, in consequence of the bad condition of the blue-written document. Every opportunity should be given one to pass creditably, but with the present state of papers, one feels too flurried to attempt a satisfactory and sufficient answer, but if it is possible to have printed questions, a great source of present wrath deluged upon careful examiners' heads would be removed.

THE addition to the curriculum of a course in Theological Honours, corresponding to some extent to the Theological Tripos at Cambridge, is of great value to

theological students. A course in each of the various branches of the study of theology is prescribed, forming a very complete introduction to the whole or any part of the subject, and is thus a most useful foundation for future study. Homiletics and apologetics not belonging to theology proper, are excluded, and the graduate in honours has to pass a subsequent examination in these subjects before receiving his letters testimonial for Holy Orders. The thorough grounding which any graduate in the above courses must have, naturally leads to the question, "Where is the necessity for the Bishop's examination, and why cannot a graduate in theological honours be spared this further trial, as are Theological Tripos men in England?" We fail to see what extra satisfaction the Bishop gains, and we are sure that in one way or another it is detrimental to the best interests of the candidate for Orders. He must either wait until his college course is concluded before he commences to read for the Bishop's examination, which is certain to be very inconvenient, or he has to read for two examinations at once, which is not only inconvenient, but injurious, and resulting in cramming, with the tendency to lower the dignity of the subject—a point we are inclined to think too often overlooked—and to disgust the student, so as to cause him to neglect study altogether when freed from the trammels of a college course. Surely such manifest disadvantages far outweigh any supposed satisfaction derived by the Bishop from the passing of an examination, which has virtually been passed before, and which, it is a foregone conclusion, that ninety-nine out of a hundred candidates will succeed in passing.

THOSE who regularly attend the Speech Day proceedings of Trinity College School, may remember the few words of monition spoken a year or so ago by Chancellor Allan, in the course of his remarks upon the subject of too early an entrance of a youth upon an University career. These words are pertinent at the present season, in view of the large number of "failures to pass" at the last Matriculation examination, and leads to an enquiry as to what may be the causes which prevented the candidates approaching the standard required by the University examiners. The first and most obvious reason is lack of time spent in preparation—a fact which age may compensate for. Wisely the statutes require a youth to be sixteen years of age for a passman, and for honours seventeen. Almost any boy of the former age can "pass" the requirements for admission, but in many cases it is inexpedient that one so young should attempt it, unless there is shown a wonderful degree of precocity. But when a boy—a third form boy—presents himself with a subject half read, and with an evident desire to "slide through," an examiner is perfectly justified in rejecting the candidate. A student not fully prepared, and hence not qualified, is only keeping misery in store for himself in future examinations. But aside from the