

trust that what the summer has accomplished is but the first movement of an awakened public spirit that will demand that our city take the position that nature has so eminently fitted her for and that she so justly deserves.

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We would like to say a word regarding the literary aims of the A.M.S. This subject has been mentioned in these columns in previous years, but some of the advice given then seems to require repetition. One of the avowed aims of the society as stated in the constitution is "to cultivate a literary and scientific taste among the students." This purpose is perhaps the most important and yet has the least attention given to it. We never have anything scientific, and rarely anything literary. We have, it is true, some musical entertainment occasionally, but what is most needed is something in which all can take an active part. Now as it has been often said, and we repeat it for the benefit of the freshmen, the A.M.S. affords the student an excellent opportunity for cultivating his oratorical powers. This fact and the need of taking advantage of it were well brought out at a recent meeting by the Rev. C. J. Cameron, who should speak with a certain amount of authority, inasmuch as he speaks from experience. Here then is a chance for all members to distinguish themselves, and the senior students should give the younger ones a preference in this respect. Very few opportunities for this sort of thing have been given yet this session, and we must admit that the present executive has been rather behind-hand in getting the freshmen interested in the society. However, the Mock Parliament which has proved itself a success in previous sessions will probably soon be started, and if properly conducted should be a greater success than ever. We also expect to see a series of inter-year debates this session, and we hope that the new executive to be appointed in a few weeks will see fit to hold two or more open meetings of the society during the session.

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Though as yet no complete up-to-date catalogue of the books in the library has been issued for the benefit of the students, yet a privileged few have an opportunity of enjoying the use of the one in the library. While it is mainly used as an index to those books which are in most general use, it also discloses the secret of those dust-laden tomes that adorn the shelves of several alcoves, and which have stood there for many years in undisturbed repose. Most of these volumes have never been in demand by the students, and the probability that they will ever be so is continually diminishing. But while these old books possess little or no value as aids to the student, many of them possess considerable archaeological value. Take, for instance, the collection of old bibles. Our library contains perhaps the rarest

collection of old bibles to be found anywhere in this country. About two years ago a gentleman in the United States, who is making a collection of old and rare editions of the bible, sent a circular to each of the Universities of the United States and Canada requesting them to send him catalogues of the various editions of the bible in their libraries. A list of those in Queen's library was sent. Subsequently the librarian received a letter from the aforesaid gentleman, in which he stated that the list he received from Queen's contained some extremely rare and interesting editions, and that it was altogether the most remarkable list he had received. A superficial inspection of them is enough to convince one of their antiquity. Among them are some of the first editions of the bible printed in England, being the English translations of Wicliffe and Tyndall, which are now very rare indeed. The style of binding and the type are a study in themselves. And again there are many books of great historical value, especially those relating to the early history of Canada. This is partly due to the fact that Queen's has been in existence for over half a century, and is situated in a part of Canada rich in historic interest. Many of these books were written by U. E. Loyalists, most of whom settled in this district, and by participators in the war of 1812 and the rebellion of 1837. So that, though few may know it, our library is rich with literary curiosities, which, though they are disregarded by the busy student, would cause the enthusiastic bibliophile to go into transports of delight.

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Both Arts and Medicine have reorganized their respective Concourses, and will probably have passed judgment on more than one offender ere this article appears; it will therefore not be out of place for the JOURNAL to state briefly its views on the question.

We by no means agree with the opinion held by many Arts students that the Court is simply an institution for providing seniors with amusement at the expense of the freshmen. Indeed, the phrase so frequently used, "mock court," is a complete misnomer. The Court is, or should be, an organization for maintaining the unwritten laws of college etiquette, breaches of which cannot for the most part be taken cognizance of by the Senate. In the recognition of this fact Medicine is far ahead of Arts. While a great deal of amusement is derived from the Medical examinations, and from the witty remarks of judges and policemen, yet all unruliness is sternly checked, and the fact of "business first and pleasure afterwards" is never lost sight of, as it so frequently is in the Arts Court. The JOURNAL does not advocate a funeral solemnity; but it certainly does think that tramping of feet and immoderate guffaws of laughter at every remark that any official chances