

attention of the present students to the fact that it is their paper." Others than this contemporary have perhaps noticed that the number of contributors among the student-body was very small and have doubted that the best interests of all were being thereby subserved.

Apart from all question of responsibility in the matter, there can be scarcely a doubt that to the students themselves as well as to the readers would accrue no small gain if the former were more frequently using the ATHENÆUM for the public expression of their views and sentiments. The first issue of this year contained an article on "College Journalism" in which student proprietorship and responsibility were clearly implied, and topics suggested profitable to be discussed by the student in his college paper. The sentiments of that contributed article were approved by many, both students and graduates and certainly deserved more practical attention than they received.

In the first issue of this year there was also made an announcement to the effect that a column for letters and short articles by any who cared to use it would be a feature of succeeding numbers. It was hoped that many students would find in connection with this department an opportunity to write for the paper which the demands of longer and more formal contributions make in some cases well-nigh impossible. But the result has thus far scarcely justified the hope. Only one student has unsolicited become a correspondent, and in all only six letters have been contributed. It is not in mind to saddle the blame for this upon any persons, only to call attention to the facts of the case in order that if need be a change may be effected. If they deserve it let the editors be censured for all past failures in this particular, but if this column can be made of profit to both student and reader let no one be allowed to stand in the way of its usefulness.

One word more in this connection. Students have ability and consequently some responsibility to furnish articles of more distinctly literary value than the more practical contributions discussed above. But neither essays nor themes prepared only to meet the demands of the curriculum are fit for publication in the college paper. Not a few students will not permit any paper to pass from under their hands that bears traces of carelessness and mere time-serving. Others have allowed themselves to regard the writing of essays as a task entirely superfluous and to be got rid of as hurriedly and slovenly as the long-suffering of the Professor will permit. Productions of this latter type are prepared "only to meet the demands of the curriculum" and subjects treated as well as the discussion of them hopelessly preclude their employment by a paper that wishes to retain the good will of its constituency. If during the coming year the students of this college, amply qualified as many of them surely are, will keep in mind the needs of *their* paper and without unnecessary coaxing furnish for it the best products of mind and pen whether of essay or of article specially prepared for publication they will both materially help the editors and add to the value of the ATHENÆUM.