

# Queen's University Journal.

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## Editorials.

THE halls are deserted; the echoes of the voices of visitors have free play; everything speaks of something that is gone. It cannot be put off. With all its painful shock the time of separation has come. To the very ends of the earth go out those who for four years or more have been close companions. Surely this is matter for pause and reflection.

What does this separation mean? It involves one of the sad necessities of life, a shifting of the circles of friendship, which can never be accomplished without a poignant feeling of sorrow. One comes to college and is brought in contact with a large number of students. Many of these become intimate friends. One's deepest aspirations and ambitions are trusted to them. They learn the innermost secrets of one's life. And so college friendship takes on its mark of distinction, a close intimacy, an interchange of hopes hidden from other friends. The tie which binds together college men is of great strength, though of delicate texture.

How closely knit into each other's being are young men who have together seen truth rise on the distant horizon, who are in possession of each other's highest hopes and ideals! And so the very closeness of college friendship makes sharp the pangs of separation. But look beyond this separation and one finds oneself in possession of a new circle of friends. This surely is solace. And besides the tie which bound one to one's fellow students is not entirely torn apart. The influence of friendship bears upon character and so, in spite of separation, one's nature bears upon it the indelible impress of one's friends' ideas and influence. College men learn the high value of friendship and they learn the necessity for keeping green the memory of a true friend. One should set out upon one's own path of life, should bear the pangs of the parting of the ways, assured that the tie which bound in former years will still bind, and that new friends in some measure take the place of old ones. For there is a common element in human nature. Let the new friend be a great event. Maintain an extreme tenderness of nature on this point.

"What is so great as friendship, let us carry it with what grandeur of spirits we can. Let us be silent—so shall we hear the whisper of the gods."

THERE is a practical side to the question of keeping green the memory of one's college friends. Reunions of members of various "Years" are frequently held and have this object in view: No Year society should break up without making definite arrangements for a re-union some time in the future.

It is well that college men should