

their contemporaries. They become isolated in sympathy and sentiments; and

'Think the cackle of their bourg
The murmur of the world.'

Nine terms is not a long period. It is intercourse with their predecessors which keeps alive tradition and nourishes sentiment. It should be the primary ambition of a matriculant to be a worthy and intelligent member of his University. Without it he is a mere bird of passage. At best his is the transitory interest of a public school boy. A step has been lately taken which may bring the past and present in some measure together—the amplification of the Literary Institute. But this is but partial. Something more of an organization is needed. The town graduates themselves must feel the lack of a more tangible bond of union *inter se* than a common *Alma Mater*. Pleasant it would be, and expedient at times, for all to meet together in harmony. Seasons of re-union, co-operation, and conviviality ought to characterize Trinity's sons now as it did in their students' days.

What we need is an *Alma Mater* Society. Are we, and do we trust our successors will be, advocates of self-government? Is union strength? Is an exchange of ideas nothing? Are two or more heads better than one, though it be your own? If so, some machinery is necessary. Why not at seasonable times a caucus of Convocation? Enthusiast! you might as well try to cage the four winds—*Æolus en masquerade* without a cave! Each of us thinks he knows best. Yet self-centred resolution without an audience, individualism spinning a thread to be tangled in another's, is egoism meeting its reward. One has ability, another an idea, a third energy, yet each churlishly hideth his talent in a napkin. An iron bar, a fulcrum, a force: ay, the factors of strength are diverse, yet once bring them together, apply them aright, and a mountain might quake, not to say a mole-hill.

The annual dinner, our Literary Institute, this PUBLICATION, and Young Trinity's kindred means of expression are dissevered complements. Let us have a hub, around which these and more may revolve to some use. As many spokes to the wheel as you choose, but let them circle in harmony. At a special meeting of the Institute, referred to in another column, a graduate was of opinion that Trinity men needed no Society, an individual consciousness of the responsibilities of their degree was enough; they should seek nothing more tangible than the privilege of membership in a University whose well-being was so dear to all her children, etc. We differ. The time has come when Young Trinity must put the best foot forward. Yet, in an individual, self-assertativeness and self-sufficiency is disgusting. But without co-operation there is no alternative left the honest. Shall the sincere then rest content to be an impotent member of a body whose lethargy he deplures, who would recognize him only as a feeder of fatness—one more feather in a sluggard's pillow? No, if it is within the power of you and your contemporaries be more. It is a pitiful ambition, an unworthy status, to be

mere vulgar fractions of the University, multiplied continually, yet then at best mixed numbers.

We do not advocate the organization of a church faction for party purposes in the Synod, to be again disbanded 'at request.' An *Alma Mater* Society should, as a body, carefully avoid embroilment in Diocesan politics. Ours is a University whose main tributary is Trinity College, and happily, a feature of her teaching is the wholesome doctrine of the Church of England. Relatively, however, this is too prominent. Trinity is too often confounded with its divinity class. But the kindly features of *Alma Mater* may yet be shaped to more harmonious proportions. Our proposed Society should be a tangible recognition of the University idea, not (of all things) the ignition of a theological fire-band. The broad ground its name would proclaim should be the criterion of membership. Graduates, undergraduates and matriculants, clergy and laymen, all who have the good cause of their *Alma Mater* at heart ought to unite in the scheme we suggest.

ABOUT COLLEGE.

New Steward:

That Piano will play waltzes of its own accord before long.

Grub-grumbling committees are the order of the day. Pity the Dean.

Is the Reception-room idea to be realized? Why not? It is *sadly* needed.

The new paving in front of the gates and along the terrace, adds very greatly to its appearance, as well as to the safety of walking.

One—two—three—kick! What an appalling spectacle is that of a gentleman, who stands six foot three in his stocking feet, dancing the raquet.

We long, but long in vain, for the improved Library and Reading Room. The former is as crowded, and the latter as gloomy and uncomfortable as ever.

What has become of 'Επισκοπών? The old gentleman is very quiet this time. Are the men not contributing? Are the editors disagreed? Or, is the scribe lazy?

We must remind the men again that it is only fair to those who patronize our advertizing columns, that the custom of the students should be transferred to them as far as is possible.

We are happy to state that the Corporation have seen fit to make the office of Dean a reality, and have appointed the Rev. the Professor of Mathematics, to fill it, the functions of which he has performed for some years.

Mr. Fidler, our efficient organist, laments the poor attendance of the students at the weekly choir practice, the consequence of which is, that the singing in the chapel goes on unimproved, week after week, while with good practice, &c.

We acknowledge, with many thanks, communications from Rev. Henry Wilson, B. D., Rev. John Farncomb, M. A., Rev. C. Harris, George Bousfield, Esq., and others. The letter from 'Pay all Debts,' cannot be published, not being accompanied by the author's name.