

to give it their support. We declare fearlessly then, that a student who refuses that support is guilty not only of a breach of faith, but also of an act of disloyalty to his Alma Mater. In our Freshman year, and ever since, we considered it a sacred duty to pay our dollar and take the JOURNAL, and how any student could conscientiously refuse to do likewise was always a puzzle to us. We hope then that the students will come forward to our aid. We should have one common interest in the JOURNAL. It is our paper and we want to see it a success. It can be successful only if the students stand firmly in support of the staff they have appointed.

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There seems to be a growing spirit of individualism manifesting itself more and more among our students. Many refuse to take an interest in things which ought to interest every student who enters college. These are societies for students, especially the A.M.S., of which all students become members, the sending of delegates as representatives to other institutions, the College JOURNAL, conversaciones, foot-ball, etc. Too many take the position that all these things have nothing whatever to do with them. "We came here," they say, "to take a course at Queen's, and we have no right to be expected to take an interest in anything outside of our studies." Such a feeling, if allowed to grow, will sap out all true college spirit, and substitute for University life the feel-in and sentiment of a dindergarten school. Think not you have no interest in these things, my brother. You have an interest. These are institutions which make college life what it is, institutions which those who have gone before you inaugurated and supported, and which they bequeathed to you as a sacred legacy. You have entered college and they are yours, yours to support, yours to amend if you find them unsuited to the time in which you live, but yours. Do not then try to shift the responsibility to other shoulders, bear it yourself and be a man. Independence is not indifference, but is found only in recognizing and supporting institutions which form a part of the life we live. Individualism is stoicism, indifference, insubordination, and ultimately the setting aside of all lawful authority. May this spirit be eradicated from Queen's, and let every student support loyally the organizations under which he lives, and which make university life in the highest sense of the word possible.

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Our Journal year begins afresh, and with it we would make once more the oft-repeated appeal to our fellow-students. This time the appeal is not for contributions in hard cash, but for contributions on paper. The JOURNAL has for some time been managed by an exceedingly large staff, with the understanding that the said staff was to do the greatest portion of the writing. A change has been made; the present staff of editors is small and it hopes that its duties will be more in the way of editing than of producing. We must have an ideal; and we may perhaps state our ideal at the start. We do not, to begin, believe in making the JOURNAL a colourless gazette of university events. We do not again wish to be heavily literary. The plain truth is that college men are too un-

developed to be seriously literary. With the *Nineteenth Century*, the *Fortnightly Review*, the *Forum*, and dozens of other periodicals to read, who will resort to a college paper for serious efforts? Our proper field is light literature; and for this we possess considerable qualifications and advantages. College students are at an age when the spirit of fun is rampant; they have—or should have—some familiarity with literature, and enough originality to adapt it to their own uses; and they dwell so continually in a world of study that they welcome any attempt to extract fun out of work that often assumes terrible and menacing proportions. A good parody expresses far better appreciation of the poem parodied than the most laborious imitation. The parodist must understand the spirit and the rhythm of the poem he "improves," and he makes a frank confession of the poet's superiority; the disciple at once confesses the master's superiority, and his own ignorance of the extent of his superiority. A skit to be effective has to be fully as clever as a more ambitious article, and it gives the writer excellent practice in sureness and lightness of touch.

We believe then that nearly all of the literary work of the JOURNAL should be in the direction of light and amusing articles; and it is in this direction that we solicit the aid of our fellow students. The gazette portions of the JOURNAL we intend to fill ourselves; but for the other sides we wish to draw largely upon our constituency. No board of editors could completely represent the literary talent lying dormant in our midst; and the present staff cannot be expected to produce so much literature of this kind for each month. We hope that our readers will take this utterance of ours to heart, and that the student who has views of his own upon any University custom or event, the student upon whom the coveted inspiration descends, and the student who has read a new book will favour us with an expression of their views, their inspiration, or their impressions.

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We are told that the JOURNAL ought to "aspire." Aspire to what? A difficult problem is at present engaging the attention of the staff as to what the future of the JOURNAL ought to be. There are two courses which may be adopted. The JOURNAL has all along endeavored to supply the needs of two classes of subscribers—students and graduates. But would it not be better to make it exclusively a students' paper, like the *Edinburgh Student* or the *Varsity*? Under its present circumstances this is all it can or ought to attempt. It is too much to expect of students attending classes to edit a magazine which would be of general interest to graduates. We feel that the JOURNAL has a tendency to run too much into this form. As long, then, as it is under the entire control of the students, it should attempt little or no magazine work; it should be simply a students' paper.

The other course which might be adopted would be to make the JOURNAL a literary, scientific or philosophic magazine, reserving a portion to be edited by the students. To adopt this course would place it beyond the full control of the students. To make such a magazine valuable a permanent editor, who is not a student, should be ap-