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THE STUDENTS OF THE COLLEGE OF OTTAWA.

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THE OWL is the journal of the students of the College of Ottawa. Its object is to aid the students in their literary development, to chronicle their doings in and out of class, and to unite more closely the students of the past and present to their Alma Mater.

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## "MERRY CHRISTMAS!"— "BONNE ANNEE!"

The Christmas season is upon us with its various joys and friendly greetings. In all the year there is no other time in which the milk of human kindness so overflows, in which all the petty differences or grave disputes are so hidden by the general Christmas cheer. Our surroundings, reflections on the meaning of this holy season, memories of the past, all tend to make each one sink his individuality and busy himself about the general joy. Nowhere is this so true as in College. In the

world various passions rule the human breast on this as on every other occasion. For some it is a season of exclusive animal pleasure, visions of roast turkey and plum pudding arise before their famished The body is feasted; the better part forgotten. Others, too, do not forget their less favored neighbors, though they oftener bestow than give. Another class fulfills the golden precept by a simple "Merry Christmas to you"; nothing more. Perhaps the greater part, and of the number College students from no unimportant share, come nearer to the true Christian ideal. "Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth to men of good will "-this is the Christian's Christmas text addressed to all the world "Glory to God," the first, most fitting, and most necesary 'act; the act of the higher, nobler part of man to his Creater. Then "peace to men of good will"—the satisfaction arising from charitable actions. from bringing others joy begets the purest joy for us. And last of all in truth, though we can scarce convince ourselves of it, the animal wants are satisfied more generously, more lavishly than usual. In this truly Christian spirit may the students of the College, the readers of the Own, spend this holy festive season. To each and all of them the bird more gently then is its custom, whispers-"Merry Christmas"-"Bonne Année."

## IS IT INDIFFERENCE?

The question has often been asked and with considerable reason: "Why is it that in France and Italy, countries so intensely Catholic, governments hostile to the Church are allowed to remain in power." With regard to France there is little doubt but that the cause is the natural, though none the less culpable, indifference of the French peasant, and his aversion to anything that would dis-