

# The Owl,

PUBLISHED BY

The Students of the University of Ottawa.

TERMS: One dollar a year in advance. Single copies, 15 cts. Advertising rates on application.

THE OWL is the journal of the students of the University 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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VOL. IX. DECEMBER, 1895. No. 4.

## THE END OF CONTROVERSY.

The public controversy between THE Owl and the "Calendar of St. Patrick's Church" has come to an end. The pastor of St. Patrick's made the following statement from his pulpit on Sunday, the 8th of December:

"It was mutually agreed two days ago by the editor of the university magazine and myself that our first duty was to express publicly our deep sorrow for the scandal occasioned by the miserable dispute between us, and to endeavor to repair it by every means in our power. The opportunity

is mine this morning, and here, in your presence, I humbly and regretfully acknowledge my participation in the offence, and ask your forgiveness, and that of all whom I have offended. My next duty is to make reparation to one directly affected by a reference contained in an article which appeared in the November Calendar. The article was written in reply to the insinuation that unfair means had been resorted to in order to secure the removal of the Christian Brothers from the English-Catholic Schools of the city. Annoyed at this imputation, I foolishly retaliated by making a statement reflecting on a former member of the university faculty—a statement which I believed to be true as it was inferred from incidents that happened in connection with an investigation held in 1889, in the issue of which he and I were largely interested. It has since been made apparent from documents not previously adduced, and which would have similarly exonerated me six years ago, that the statement was unfounded. I therefore unhesitatingly withdraw it. I do not urge as an excuse the provocation given, and offer the amplest apology for the publication of the statement. I desire also to apologize for all uncharitable or unseemly things I may have written during the heat of the discussion. The utterances of the "Calendar" have been publicly imputed to persons who never had any connection with it. Thus, again, the innocent are made to suffer; and I wish to express my regret for the injustice done these persons, and as far as in me lies relieve them of all responsibility."

The Managing Editor of THE OWL wrote the subjoined letter to the *Free Press* of December 9th:

"I think it my plain duty to join with the Rev. Father Whelan in deploring the scandal occasioned by our recent regrettable public discussion, and to ask an indulgent pardon for my share in the offence. I regret also that I allowed to appear in print remarks that were perhaps unnecessarily harsh and bitter, and that may have given offence to persons to whom for any reason or for no reason they have been applied."

We have a word further to add. In replying to the November "Calendar," THE OWL stated that the article "A Meddlesome Body" was the work of a syndicate. That statement has been declared unfounded. No one save the "Calendar's" editor and another person—a layman, who was never a student of this institution—had aught to do with the article in question. We, therefore, unhesitatingly and entirely withdraw the statement, and regret that innocent persons should have been held by us even indirectly responsible for the "Calendar's" utterances.