

terest. It is called the San Dominico and was originally a monastery, but as all the monks died, the property passed into other hands. It is a quaint old place with cloisters, piazza and garden overlooking the straits. The bed-rooms were originally the cells of the monks. The main street has some attractive old shops, and for the curio hunter and lover of antiques there are many tempting things; old Sicilian lace and drawn thread work are quite a feature of the place.

We found the people very pleasant. Some of them are very good-looking. The women look very picturesque with bright scarves on their heads. The children seemed to us to look unhealthy, and we learned that there was a great deal of sickness in the village, which was hardly to be wondered at when the streets were so narrow, and many of the houses so sunless and damp.

There are many beautiful walks about, one especially, through a wild garden. Then too, one can climb up to the village of Molla about four hundred feet above Taormina. It is worth while doing this for the sake of the view, but the place itself is horribly dirty. One afternoon while rambling along the hill side, we heard a shepherd boy playing on the pipes. It sounded very sweet and pastoral and added to the charm of the place. Another day one of the village boys took us to see the Grottos which are very fine. There is only one thing of any historic interest to see in the place and that is a Greco-Roman theatre. Historically, Syracuse and Gijenti are much more interesting than Taormina, but for natural beauty there is no comparison. It was quite a relief to hear that during the dreadful earthquakes in the district about Messina, beautiful little Taormina had escaped destruction.—Kitt.

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*To the Editor of the Journal:*

The university that ceases to believe in the power of ideas—that ideas are more powerful than force, political parties, men, or circumstances—has lost its *raison d'être*. The university that teaches in its philosophical department that the highest truth of all ages is "Whosoever shall lose his life shall find it," and then is afraid to apply its teaching when a practical problem confronts the nation, cannot hold its place as a leader in national thought. There are two theories of life, one, the will to live, and the other, the renunciation of the same. These two stand in constant opposition, egotism and altruism. Christ and Buddha demanded that their followers should have faith in self-surrender. The military spirit is self-assertion, it is egotism. Is it to be developed at Queen's contrary to her teaching? Is the university like the church to teach a doctrine which in times of emergency it shall say is unpractical. Do not let us be hypocrites. If we are to have a military corps, let us abolish our chairs of philosophy for the two are inconsistent.

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STUDENT VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT.

A Student Volunteer Band has been organized. Meetings are held once a fortnight on Fridays. The questions to be discussed this term are: "What constitutes a call to foreign missions," to be led by Mr. Harold Harrison, on Dec.