

We only expect that they be reasonable, and from the character which McGill men have earned for themselves it is an expectation that will not be disappointed.

THE UNIVERSITY CLUB.

Our modest beginning has already developed into something greater. The rapidity with which the little *sanctum*, which we hired in Philips Square a couple of months ago, was deserted for the larger room, and this again for the present quarters of the University Club shows completely how well founded was our belief that some such Club was wanted, and that it only required a statesmanlike and well-directed practical effort to lay its foundations and put it on a fair way towards complete success. While we are fully justified in taking to ourselves the credit of the initiative we must say that we could never have carried out the undertaking but for the hearty and generous encouragement which we received from a number of the younger graduates and some of the younger undergraduates. Those gentlemen who took upon themselves the risk of subscribing a guarantee fund and of moving into more expensive quarters are those who may truly be said to have founded the University Club. We can hardly express the gratification which we feel at the latent enthusiasm amongst University men which we have had the good fortune to arouse upon this and other matters within a very short time. For years we have heard nothing but complaints of the indifference manifested by the graduates, and no doubt these complaints were well founded; but they do not do one ounce of good. Well-directed efforts and concerted action, even in the smallest way, will do more good than the exhortations and twittings of a Burke. What we have already been able to do leads us to hope that renewed effort in the future will be largely successful.

The aid rendered by the Graduates Society and several of the Professors after the scheme had taken shape must be recorded to their honour. It shows that there is still some life in the Society, and that the Professors when asked to co-operative with the graduates and undergraduates in any of their undertakings are very willing to do so.

But let us not crow too much. The Club is still in its infancy and beset on every side by difficulties and hidden snares. We have now no control whatever over the Club except what moral influence we may possess, but in the most friendly spirit we can offer our advice.

It will be remembered that for a number of years repeated efforts were made to found such an institution

but always resulted in failure. It would be well for the committee to remember this, and to examine why it is that so far the undertaking this time has succeeded. All the former attempts were made on a wrong basis. The promoters started out with the idea that a Club should bloom at once into completeness—at once into something worthy the name of University Club. From our circumstances this was a mistake. They should have been content to sow the seed and let the tree take its time to grow. Our first piece of advice, then, to the committee is, be careful not to force the growth of the tree. Let it develop. Do not be too elated at the rapid growth which has already taken place. Be assured that that rapid growth will not continue. The young always grow rapidly, but as the man becomes stronger and more well-knit the development is more gradual. We do not mean to say that the Club will not grow. We merely warn the committee against over-sanguineness where the growth must be a matter of many years.

At the same time expansion must take place. Two rooms are absolutely necessary, and if possible it would be desirable to have three. The older graduates when canvassed will immediately ask, what attraction have you for them. This must be met. There is a well-stocked reading-room. That is not sufficient. We have a pleasant room with a piano. That is better. We have a smoking room, with cards, chess, etc. That is better still. We can supply refreshments of a light kind, and we afford a rendezvous for University men. All this ought to be enough to prevail upon a man of any spirit to assist the undertaking; but you must not count on generosity,—you must look about you with a business eye. Smoking material should, if possible, be obtainable on the premises, and as soon as the funds will allow a billiard table should be obtained. We also think it would be well if re-unions of all the members were held now and again, at which refreshments might be provided. This would lead members to make more frequent use of the rooms.

The committee, then, have before them a difficult and responsible task. They have by degrees to make the Club attractive, and yet to avoid extravagance. On business principles they should create a small reserve fund, so that they may continue next year without difficulty.

To the members we may say that we hope they will not be afraid to be exclusive. Happily there are not many objectionable people who could become members. But our advice is, become particular at once.

The influence of the Club is already beginning to be felt. Two or three years ago we gave it as our opinion that the University Literary Society would never be