

## THE MCGILL GAZETTE.

1st APRIL, 1877.

Editors for 1876-77.

Managing Editor, '76, D. C. McLAREN.  
'79, W. D. Lighthall, Sec'y. '79, W. R. Sutherland, Treas.

'77, A. Jamieson, B.A. '78, J. Ross  
'78, P. D. Ross. '79, G. H. Groves.

A rather exaggerated report of a recent meeting of the Literary Society, which appeared in the *Evening Star*, and which was contradicted by an officer of the Society, has prompted us to consider the relation which students should maintain towards the city papers in the matter of College news. In the American universities, and at Oxford and Cambridge, special correspondents are employed by the leading journals in the neighbourhood of these institutions. Nothing of this kind has ever happened in McGill, chiefly on account of the small quantity of interesting news. Nevertheless, there are students in College who are in the habit of furnishing items of College news to the city journals, gratuitously of course. Now of this, so long as it is properly conducted no one can complain. It maintains a public interest in McGill affairs, and the bounds of propriety are seldom or never transgressed, either by the Montreal papers or by the students. However, though there are certain collegiate affairs of a semi-public nature, such as football matches, concerts, &c., which one man has quite as good a right to report as another, there are other cases where it is a decided breach of propriety for any but the duly authorized officer to furnish information to the public press. As a rule, the meetings of the Literary Society come under the former class, and under ordinary circumstances, no question has been raised as to who reported them for the newspapers. In fact, we question very much if there are many members of the Society who have not, at some time or other, given information to the daily press of the Society's meetings. But a meeting like the one in question, where the discussion was of no public interest whatever, and when the business transacted and the manner of its transaction were matters of private consideration, comes decidedly under the second head. Such being the case, it is wrong, emphatically wrong, for any officious member to expose the private affairs of the Society in the public press. Had the *Star* known the facts of the case this garbled report would never have been published, but all possible reparation was made by the insertion of Mr. DeSalaberry's aerial. However, we trust that in future great care will be exercised by University men as to how they expose their private affairs in the journals of the city.

IN CLOSING, as we do with this number, our short session of editorial life and duties, it may not be unprofitable to glance back at the road over which we have travelled. We are conscious, and none more than ourselves, that all has not been done as it ought, or even might have been done; yet if our successors profit at all by our errors, so that they do not fall into the same, we shall not regret the few mistakes we have made; we say "few mistakes," and our friends, we are sure, will bear us out in saying it. We have at least been successful in gaining the confidence of the students, so that the board of next year will not be met at the outset, as was the case with ourselves, by discouraging doubts on the part of those to whom they look for support. It has been a matter of surprise to us that greater interest is not taken in the paper by undergraduates; important questions have been continually before the students, and yet almost no regard seems to be paid them by those who have most to gain or lose according to their issue. We have had one instance where certain gentlemen who had been criticized by a letter in our columns, instead of replying through the same medium, inquired of us the name of the writer, in order that, forsooth, they might have it out privately with him! This, for reasons best known to ourselves, we declined doing. What hopes we may have had of making the *Gazette* a financial success, are now among those numerous *Chateaux en Espagne*, which have succumbed to the rude breath of reality and fallen shapeless to the ground; but by exercising a moderate amount of economy we have been enabled to keep our heads above water. A word now about the future, vol. IV, No. I, will make its appearance on October 1st, 1877; it is intended to publish it fortnightly during the session, thus making twelve numbers. Little or no change will be made in the form of the sheet; some have objected to the size of the columns, as being large and clumsy; but we can only say that if it has been found to be so by our readers, it is much more so to us on whom devolves the task of filling it, and that to the satisfaction of all who shall read it. Before bidding farewell to our friends, we desire to thank them all for their support, and hope that it will be as heartily extended to our successors in the future; we wish the students success in the approaching examinations, and to all success in life. "Not Adieu, but Au revoir."

CERTAIN students, who disagreed with the views which we expressed in reference to Theological Degrees, in our last number (which we know were concurred in by the large majority of our men), and who were unable to give utterance to their own opinions, either in our columns, which would have been open to them under the usual conditions, or elsewhere, incompetent, we say, to speak for themselves, sought