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THE OWL is the journal of the students of the  
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dents 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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tisers.

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#### THE MARKING SYSTEM.

THE action of Cornell University in  
abolishing the marking system has  
called for "a few remarks"  
from many college journals. Here  
the system of marking recitations monthly  
and term examinations by exact percent-  
ages is perhaps the fairest and most  
accurate way of keeping records of a  
student's progress; and reference to the  
"Big Note Book" will at any time be an  
easy means of ascertaining his standing.  
We do not for a moment hold that mark-

ing under any system is entirely free from  
serious objections, but we know of no  
other means to attain the end of marking,  
so we cannot agree with some of our ex-  
changes, which are agitating for its aboli-  
tion. We heartily endorse, however,  
every word of the following excerpt from  
the *Acadia Athenaeum*:—"We are pre-  
pared to say that if there is one student in  
Acadia who is 'working for marks,' he  
ought to be heartily ashamed of himself.  
His business is immensely small." The  
man who works for marks knows little  
better than the man who does not work at  
all what it is to be a student. We remem-  
ber reading that Thomas Davis "was not  
a dull, plodding, premium man when at  
college," and the significance of the remark  
has often come home to us. The young  
man who, after several years of student  
life, finds in a premium enough to repay  
him for a year's "plodding," is deserving  
of our sincere commiseration. Let us not  
be misunderstood. Faithful work we do  
not in any way wish to depreciate; nor do  
we excuse those who neglect regular work  
to read "a little of everything and not  
much of anything." But we deprecate  
the dogged perseverance in the study of  
class-work, almost to the total exclusion of  
general reading, and for the unworthy  
motive of being the possessor of a  
premium.

#### THE READING ROOM.

IT has been our boast for a couple of  
years past that we have one of the  
finest reading rooms in the country.  
This is the more remarkable when we  
consider the views of the faculties of most  
Canadian Catholic colleges in such mat-  
ters. Here no objection is made to our  
having the leading newspapers or maga-  
zines of Canada, the States or Europe,