

Excelsior.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE STUDENTS OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S COLLEGE

VOL. IV. ANTIGONISH, N. S., JANUARY, 1900. No. 4.

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ADVERTISING RATES.—One inch, single column, \$1.50 per year.
One inch, double column, \$3.00 per year.
Other rates on application.

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EXCELSIOR, Box 41,
Antigonish, N. S.

A Happy New Year! Since EXCELSIOR last went forth, 1899 has gone into the irrevocable past, and 1900 has succeeded, for the year, like the king, never dies. The year just past, has been, like its predecessors, an epitome of the life of the common average man, "with the usual share of virtues, and with vices two or three." The same resolutions were formed and broken, the same sorrows caused tears, the same joys brought smiles. Some bright intellects have ceased to shed light on the "Book of Nature" or the "Book of Man;" no doubt some have come into the world destined to make men happier and wiser.

The year saw the civilized nations of the world assembled in representation at the Peace Conference of The Hague; it saw two of the most powerful nations of the world engaged in war. Its close has seen evidence of a loyalty and devotion to Union Jack that must have impressed all. "Our Lady of the Snows" has sent her sons to fight under the broiling sun of Africa for equality and justice to their brothers.