

MCGILL FORTNIGHTLY.

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Editorial and Business Boards.

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Editorial.

WITH the present number, the newly-elected Business and Editorial Boards make their first steps in the thorny paths of journalism. That our enthusiasm should be dashed with diffidence, with reluctance even, is very naturally to be expected; for the management of a journal that shall be to the world the voice of a University like McGill, is a task of undue magnitude for the unskilful hands of youth and inexperience. The college magazine is to many the criterion of the standing, and progress of the institution itself. If we can succeed in making of the *McGill Fortnightly* an organ worthy of Alma Mater, it will be by the help of the students of McGill. We cannot too strongly impress on them that this is *their* paper—for them, of them, and especially by them. Whatever concerns them, will find, as in the past, a ready welcome in these pages. Their grievances we will ventilate; their joys and aspirations we will ever share; their labors and victories we will faithfully chronicle. Let them above all remember that the one primary object of the *Fortnightly* is to foster the literary ability of the students, and to give them the opportunity of making that momentous first step that costs so much, and on which so much depends. Until a faculty of journalism is added to McGill, this magazine must necessarily be the only substitute;

and, as such, however humble, should meet with the heartiest support of the professors no less than of the undergraduates. As yet, such a faculty is in the dim, dim future, with the gymnasium and Convocation Hall and other desirable possibilities. The surest way of furthering its establishment, is to show that there lies dormant in our midst journalistic talent, waiting for such an institution to fit it to go forth and take its place in the ranks of a profession with power and responsibilities second to none, yet for which there is in our schools absolutely no direct preparation.

A word as to our programme for the coming year. The changes in outward appearance we need not allude to; they speak for themselves, and must plead their own case. We trust that the more lively and readable appearance we have thereby striven to impart to our pages will more than compensate for the loss of the old and familiar dress.

In conclusion, we must express our thanks to all those whose support has been with us in the past, not only to our subscribers, but to those numerous well-wishers and contributors whose aid and sympathy we have always appreciated so highly. May they continue their kindly assistance, and may our united efforts ever redound to the honor and glory of old McGill!