

# The Owl,

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THE OWL is the journal of the students of the University of Ottawa. Its object is to aid the students 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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## AT BROOKLYN AND TORONTO.

The events of the past month have been the strike of the electric railway employees at Brooklyn and of the university students at Toronto—and the comparison is all in favor of the former. Between grasping capital and struggling labor there is an almost necessary opposition in aims and ideas. From their circumstances, they are not supposed to have a very delicate regard for the feelings and rights of one another. But it seems to us that every advantage that men have a

right to expect from the influence of a liberal education was conspicuously absent in the recent scandalous squabble between the faculty of the provincial university and its students. Leaving altogether out of consideration the absolute lack of professorial dignity and student honor, the facts seem to indicate that there was, on one side or the other, a too great disregard for straightforwardness, honesty and truth.

With the quarrel in itself we have nothing to do. But against its methods and results and the consequent disgrace to the whole system of higher education in Canada, we claim the right to raise our voice in most indignant protest. No excuse could justify the shameful language used by *'Varsity*, nor the rowdy-like actions of the students. Professors may be incompetent and councils useless; but vulgar squibs and petty lampoons on Prof. Doolittle, of the Dooless course in the Nulla Bona University, and the harmonious consignment of the powers that be to a place where it is too hot to shovel snow, are not very flattering evidences of that prudent judgment, correct taste and gentlemanly courtesy, reasonably supposed to be among the good results of a university training. On the other hand, the comic mixture of tyranny and weakness exhibited by the University Council would be ridiculous were it not so baneful as to be almost criminal.

Throughout the controversy the students have proved by their actions that their professors have not succeeded in educating them, while the professors have clearly shown that the charge of incompetency may not be purely imaginary and without foundation in fact.

And all this from Toronto University!! Toronto University,—that has for years been held up to us as the sublime exemplar of all that was progressive and praise-