

allowance is made for difference of opinion. Efforts which are at least well-meant, if not very effective are criticised and misjudged, and influences which combined and reconciled might result in good to the college, are weakened and alienated. Even THE GAZETTE occasionally comes in for an attack of the kind, though the wielders of such weapons may some day find that they handle a two-edged sword.

The question, who are the friends of the University? is a natural one, and it might be thought that some who are admittedly qualified to speak would do so. It might be expected, for instance, that one who had unselfishly labored during the best part of a lifetime on behalf of the University, who had been the main-spring of her progress, and her steady upholder in the day of deepest difficulty, who has never relaxed a moment because temporary and uncertain prosperity succeeded a period of struggling for existence, it might be expected that from such a source would come a definite statement as to the worth and the sincerity of active workers in University affairs.

But the public utterances of Principal Sir Wm. Dawson, whose services can only be measured by the present status of the University, will be searched in vain for hasty censures on those who show a willingness to contribute time, energy, or money to the general effort. And when the highest authority sees fit to be silent, there is some ground for asking self-constituted judges to be patient. In this matter a little usefulness is a dangerous thing. It does not entitle the performer to pose as the spokesman of a whole community.

It falls to the lot of THE GAZETTE sometimes to pass judgment upon actions and upon persons connected with the University. This is in fulfilment of the ordinary functions of a public journal, and arises from no desire to cavil at the college authorities. We hope that our opinion will be found logically defensible and characterized by good sense and moderation.

In the particular direction referred to we cannot contribute our quota of censure against those who are zealous, even if they are mistaken, in taking part in University matters. Their conduct may often be unwise—probably they will not object to be told so in a proper manner. To question their motives is an unproductive task too readily assumed by those who are wise in their own conceit.

THE "GAZETTE" AND THE STUDENTS.

We are thankful to our correspondent F. T., whose letter appears in another column, for the convenient opportunity afforded us of explaining one or two sins of omission which were committed in the last issue

of THE GAZETTE. The dinner of the Medical Undergraduates took place just two days before final arrangements connected with the publication of the last number were made, and, in consequence, the report of that highly successful and enjoyable affair at the Windsor, had to be compressed into very small space. The report was unfortunately shorter than we intended or desired, owing to a misapprehension of our representatives at the dinner, which fact the representative editors from Medicine can explain to those who are interested in the matter. We appreciate the assistance and good will of the Medical students too greatly, to have them suppose that we are not anxious to give their affairs all the attention which they so justly merit, or that we do not recognize the important part the Medicals take in those college events of which they are the life and soul. But we believe that in judging THE GAZETTE they are

To our virtues very kind
To our faults a little blind

and that they will not make up their minds to condemn the general conduct of the paper, solely upon one occurrence not quite satisfactory to them. They will leave such sweeping condemnation to our critical correspondent "F. T."

The report of the University Literary Society dinner, referred to was amongst the first matter furnished for the issue in question, and as the exigencies of space had not begun to press heavily as yet it was lengthier than usual. The accounts of the Undergraduates Society meetings were received too late for insertion. It may interest "F. T." to know that proceedings of both Societies were in type and had to be held over, through lack of space.

After these somewhat tedious explanations rendered necessary by "F. T.'s" letter, we need scarcely proceed to prove that THE GAZETTE has not in any way forfeited its right to be considered the organ of the students. A sufficient answer to our good friend "F. T.'s" scepticism on this point lies in the personnel of the editors' committee, the members of which are all student undergraduates excepting one. This exception has never been charged with any great feeling of antagonism towards the body from which dire necessity removed him a few months ago, but if the students should find his presence on the committee peculiarly obnoxious, a representation to that effect made to the directors of the paper would no doubt result in his instant and ignominious expulsion.

Our extreme modesty prevents us from referring at greater length to ourselves and our work. We do not expect our friends to be blind to faults in THE GAZETTE, or too long suffering with any errors it may commit.