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Editorial Topics.

When we remarked in our June number THE PROVOST'S ber on the fact that three of the Church RESIGNATION. Institutions of the province would at the beginning of this term be "under new management," we little thought that our own College was so soon to be included in this list.

On December 3rd, Dr. Welch announced that, "after much hesitation and acting on the advice of the Bishops and other members of the Corporation," he had decided to accept the rectorship of St. James' Cathedral. It is only because we feel that it is in the interests of the Church in general and of St James' in particular, that we can view this decision with anything but the strongest disapproval.

During his short term of office, the Provost has won the respect and esteem of every one from "don" to freshman and we can hardly yet realize what a loss his resignation will be to us.

Dr. Welch, before coming here, was rector of St. Bede's Church, Gateshead, in the Diocese of Durham, England.

In October, 1895, he was installed here as Vice-Chancellor of the University and Provost of Trinity College, and at the same time the degree of D.C.L. (*honoris causa*) was conferred on him. Since that time the Provost has often shewn that nothing is nearer to his heart than the interests of Trinity, and we feel sure that, though he has been called to another sphere of duty, he will not soon forget our beloved "Alma Mater."

It is our most sincere wish that he may meet with every success in his new work and that he may soon become as dear to the hearts of his congregation as he has to ours.

"College Spirit"—What is it? We

COLLEGE hear a great deal about it, especially
SPIRIT. during the football season, but few stop to define its meaning. Each man thinks of

it as being particularly concerned with that College institution in which he is chiefly interested. Sometimes he forgets that, though his may be an extremely important one, yet it is not the only College institution that exists. The result is that his "College spirit" and energies are chiefly expended in its behalf. The other institutions are overlooked or put aside as occupying a very inferior position and consequently considered unworthy of his interest and active support.

But while it must necessarily happen that, where several men are gathered together in the same building where different institutions exist, one is particularly interested in this and another in that association, yet surely "College spirit" is not bound up within the limits of any particular one. If it were, it could not be called "College spirit," but ought rather to be termed "party spirit." Such spirit is narrow and injurious, since, expended in the interests of one institution, it retards the growth of another.

"College spirit" must be that which moves a man to place his energies and financial support at the disposal of all College institutions, in order that they may be upheld and strengthened by his influence, so far as it goes, that which makes a man long to see his College first in every department, that which leads him to think that his University is the best and that therefore his energies ought to be spent in extending her influence; and surely if "College spirit" is anything, it will make a man be true to his "Alma Mater" and make him feel the obligation resting upon him of striving to prove himself an honour to her as well.

This may be called an ideal "College spirit," such as is not to be found in actual existence. Ideal or not, it is possible of attainment. Ideals are things to be striven after and surely the one spoken of here is worthy of our best efforts.

"College spirit" is, after all, what we ourselves make it. Let us but feel that the prosperity of our University to a very large extent depends upon the amount, quality and breadth of such "College spirit" as we possess, and we will strive to make it approach as near as possible to the ideal.

Whatever we do, let us get out of the way of thinking we have fulfilled our obligation to the different College institutions when we have done the *least* that is expected of us. All are important and demand our interest and personal support. Upon their joint success depends in a large measure the success of the College itself, a desire to promote which must lie at the root of all our "College spirit."

It is a trite observation that the wonders of one age are the commonplaces of the next. The locomotive and electric telegraph have become so familiar to us that we find it hard to believe that it is only a short time since they first appeared. It is difficult to realize the conditions of life at a time when these applications of science, so indispensable to us to-day, were absolutely unknown. In a similar manner the coming generations will doubtless look back upon the present age as one of comparative darkness. Knowledge grows daily from more to more; science moves on continually, and every year its applications are seriously affecting the conditions of our life. And, to a large extent, this is an accidental result. Few of the scientific men, whose labours have so profoundly changed the circumstances of our daily life, were directly inspired to perform their work by any thought of its practical application. Their search after truth has been due to a desire for knowledge rather than to a vision of the practical advantages which that knowledge would bring. An illustration of this is afforded by the two principal scientific achievements of the last five years—the discovery of the X rays, and the beginnings of a practical system of wireless telegraphy.

There is always a desire in the popular mind to associate each discovery with a single name. Scientifically, this is