

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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AN APOLOGY.

The OWL owes an apology to the Dublin *Freeman's Journal*. Some weeks ago that representative Irish newspaper was quoted throughout the length and breadth of this continent as hostile to the United States in its conflict with Spain, and as asserting that Ireland would send regiments of soldiers to fight Spain's battles. It now turns out that the *Freeman's Journal* never expressed any such opinion. The whole story was manufactured by the Cable Liar, in order to injure the Irish people in the United States. The *Freeman's Journal* has been from the beginning consistent-

ly and outspokenly favorable to America. This is as it should be. Ireland owes nothing to Spain or to any other continental European nation; that she has not paid ten times over. True, Spain, France and Austria were hospitable to Irish exiles in the dark days of the penal laws. But those unfortunate sons of Erin wiped out the debt of gratitude by the lavish shedding of their blood on many a battle field in the defence of their adopted country. And, in return, what did Ireland ever receive from Spain, France or Austria? for the prodigal generosity of her expatriated children? Little else save the airy nothingness of post-prandial eulogy, of sweet words and smiling faces. Any action ever taken by Continental Europe against Ireland's oppressors was conceived in jealous national hatred of England, and had for sole purpose the crippling of British power and influence. Love of Ireland or sympathy with Ireland's cause was not a determining motive.

On the other hand the kindly feeling of the United States towards Ireland has ever been shown in practice more than in theory, in deeds rather than in words.

And the United States may rest assured that in a conflict with any European nation, except Great Britain, the practically unanimous support of the Irish people at home and abroad will be with America and against Europe.

As to a quarrel between Great Britain and the United States, may