

THE 'VARSITY:

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF

EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY POLITICS AND EVENTS.

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ANOTHER YEAR.

With this number the 'VARSITY begins the fourth year of its existence. To omit to say that that beginning is made under most favorable circumstances, would be worse than negligence;—It would be ingratitude. The 'VARSITY's past has been by no means a flowery path, but, on the contrary, a course of oppositions and difficulties which only perseverance, pluck and enthusiasm have been able to overcome.

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To have founded a weekly journal here, with no foundation but good intentions, even with the brightest financial outlook, and with the promise of the active aid and encouragement of those whose interests were aimed at, would have been a task of no small difficulty. But under no such favorable auspices did those who have labored before us and made our path comparatively straight set upon their doubtful task. The opposition of a few individuals in high and low places was easily lived down or overcome, or could be more effectually got rid of by contempt. The apathy of University men was the most dreaded obstacle, and, as experience soon showed, the most difficult to struggle against, and the longest lived.

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That apathy, we take pride and confidence in saying, has almost entirely disappeared. The general and continued assistance and co-operation of so many under-graduates last year was most gratifying to us, and was, at the same time, the cause of many improvements and the lightening of many labors. For only as the work of many can a college journal be a success in all its departments. The effect also upon the many who have given us their support, especially in the fostering of a journalistic taste and talent, has been, we are assured, highly beneficial. Among our graduates, the interest taken in our work has been steadily growing, and from year to year is more and more assuming a definite and useful form. As a representation of University opinion we desire to have no dividing line between under-graduates and graduates in our columns. The adoption by the Executive Committee of Convocation, of the 'VARSITY as its recognized organ, shows a growing appreciation of our endeavor to furnish a medium for the exchange and publication of the views of Convocation. A University press is as necessary to the formation of University opinion as the newspaper is to the education of the people.

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The 'VARSITY has, we believe, followed a definite and consistent policy. Praise we have given wherever, in our opinion, it was deserved, it is not our fault that it has not been more unsparingly bestowed. Criticism we have given, only wherever and to the degree we thought necessary. Grievances we have attempted to deal with in a fair and open manner, enquiring into their causes and the source of the responsibility for their continuance, and suggesting and urging remedies. Matters not open to general consideration have been touched upon, so far as practicable, in their public aspect. If in any respect we have failed to inspire confidence or to adhere to our declared principles, it has not been for want of good intention or a generous aim. We ourselves are open to, and desirous of, fair and candid criticism.

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Our record of last year will show that a fair representation of University opinion was given, it indeed something

was not done toward the moulding of it. We persistently urged the evils of over-examination, and the number of our examinations has been materially curtailed. We opposed scholarships and medals as at present bestowed, and are supported in that opposition by many of those who have the power to deal with the bestowal of them. We expressed the decided views of most University men on the question of the abolition of Residence, and that question has dropped out of official consideration. We protested against the unfair discrimination towards the most popular course in our curriculum in the bestowal of the fellowships, and a fellow in Mental and Moral Science and Logic has been appointed. We called upon Convocation to awake and organize, and it has already adopted a scheme of complete organization. We preached the gospel of *esprit de corps*, and believe that gospel has gained in the number and the value of its disciples. We asked for more co-operation among University men in all matters affecting their interests, and believe our call has not been in vain.

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Again we repeat that we can only hope for continued success, and for further advancement from the continued assistance of our graduates and undergraduates, in whatever form it can be given. As Convocation has a great work before it, graduates should show their desire for, and their appreciation of, a worthy medium for the exchange of their views and the airing of their grievances. Undergraduates are more nearly in a position to directly aid us in every department of our work. All our columns are ever open, and we ask everyone to look upon his interest in, and his work for, us as a necessary, and by no means the least important, element in his University training. With such general co-operation our task will indeed be made a pleasant one to perform. And without it we cannot hope for decided success. Our position is not occupied for our own entertainment or advantage, but for the benefit of those we represent.

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Such is our past; such are our policy and principles; such our hopes for the future. If these hopes are not well grounded, it will be through no lack of desire and determination on the part of those more immediately concerned in our management, to accomplish the object we have placed before us.

Editorial Notes.

Believing that the returns of the University Matriculation and Supplemental Examinations will be of interest, we publish them entire.

The Stockholders of the 'VARSITY are reminded that the Annual Meeting of the company will be held in Moss Hall on Wednesday, Oct. 10th. The Officers of the Company and Editor of the 'VARSITY for the present year will then be elected, and the Treasurer's report and other business considered.

M. Pernet has resigned the French Lectureship in University College. This news will, we are sure, be received with much regret by those who have known him in that position. His kindness and geniality made him most popular with the undergraduates, amongst whom he has moved for so many years. He filled the position of President of the College Glee