

crept in somewhere. Thanks are due not to the Missionary Society which has had no connection with Plantagenet, but to the individual Students of the College, who supplied the field from time to time. However, we thank the Presbytery of Ottawa all the same for their kind words.

A PUBLIC meeting of the Literary and Philosophical Society will be held on the evening of the 1st Friday in February, at 8 o'clock. As this is the first meeting to be held under the auspices of the Society in the David Morrice Hall, a large attendance is anticipated. We extend a cordial invitation to all our friends, and trust they will make no engagement that will interfere with their attendance.

WE have now entered the last term of the present session, and our thoughts naturally are pointing to the closing days. With that period in our mind's eye, we unconsciously assume a more sober tone; we begin to realize we have more endurance than we gave ourselves credit for during the first term, when examinations were at a safe distance from us; but now we begin to anticipate the possibility of failure and we tighten our armor for a steady march. We look forward with interest to the closing ceremonies, from the fact that we hope to see a large representation of our graduates at the annual meeting of the Alma Mater Society. We should like to see all the graduates there; we expect to see all who are within a reasonable distance. Why do not all our graduates make it a matter of duty to see their Alma Mater at least once a year, especially if they are not a great distance from her? The students wish to see them, so do the professors. There should be in the efficient working of this college sufficient material for fruitful discussion.

We open our columns to all graduates for the discussion of any subject that deals with the interests of the institution. We confess that we should like to see more suggestions regarding what may further our prosperity. Our college is not yet beyond the possibility of improvement.

We think many of those who have left us and who may have seen foreign institutions, or who, in their own quiet meditations, discover reforms that might be introduced, or errors that might be removed—we think these might avail themselves of the fine opportunity afforded by their own journal to give expression to their views. We want to be a progressive institution, we are such, but not to the extent we wish. We look to the graduates. They now have experience which they can apply for the benefit of the college. Wake up, gentlemen. This is still your Alma Mater. You owe her allegiance. You

are expected in her interest and that of the church to be mindful of your obligations.

We hope to see a large number at our annual meeting. We wish to hear and publish any suggestions as to the subjects for discussion at our next meeting.

Value of College Training.

THE important place that colleges and universities occupy in a civilized community, is acknowledged by all right thinkers. So important, in fact, is the position that higher institutions of learning hold, that the history of the development and progress of these institutions is often an index of the true state of a country.

In those countries where we find no attention given to the fostering of universities, there we find a lack of intellectual life, and, as a consequence, a lack of material progress; but where schools of learning abound, we find indications on every hand of intellectual and material prosperity. College training is then of value to a country, not only intellectually, but also in furthering its material interests. That this is true, is at once seen if we look around us in the world. The men who take the chief part in intellectual pursuits—our lawyers, ministers, scientists, philosophers, historians—are men who have received a college training. The books, pamphlets, magazines, and the daily papers that are published, are the fruits of intellectual life that has been fostered within college halls. Thus our assertion is proved, that college training furthers intellectual progress. But that material progress is also furthered by college training, is also seen by observation. The engineer who builds our railways and bridges, the mineralogist who discovers the treasures that lie buried beneath the earth's surface, the mining engineer who best shows how these treasures are to be unearthed, is better fitted for his sphere of usefulness by college training. In some quarters men of education, and especially college trained men, have been belittled, but amongst all intelligent people, trained men are always valued. But let us notice more particularly a few of the advantages of college training.

First. *College training develops system and perseverance in study.*

It is quite a different thing to be a student at college and a student at home, where one is controlled by his own sweet will. At college, the fact that men belong to a class makes it imperative that they must faithfully persevere in their work, or else fall behind in their studies; and again, if success is to crown their efforts, they must win this reward by systematic effort. Thus the student at college lays the foundation of persevering habits, that shall cling to him through life. And if a college training should confer no other benefit on the student, than to found in him the habit of per-