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THE JOURNAL was born on October 25th,
1872. The prospectus stated that its
first objects were to foster a literary taste
among the students, to afford them an oppor-
tunity of expressing their opinions on the
leading topics of the day, and to serve as a
bond of union between the University and
her Alumni, that the interest of the latter in
the prosperity of their Alma Mater might
be sustained after they had left her halls.
The first object has been accomplished to a
certain extent, though we are obliged to join
in the wail that goes up from the editorial
staff of most papers of our genus, that the
number of students contributing to the

columns of the JOURNAL is a very small per-
centage of the whole. But, the other ob-
jects seem to have fallen into the limbo of
“dumb forgetfulness.” With the exception
of the discussion on Home Rule, scarcely
any of the leading topics of the day have
been touched. This cannot be for lack of
interest in political questions. Have we not
shown ourselves ready at a moment's notice
to be organized into associations pledged to
support the two existing parties? And, of
course, no student joined either association,
simply because his father or grandfather
voted blue or yellow. He had made up his
mind intelligently on the extensive platforms
laid down by both parties. Could we not
then have some philosophic discussion on
the living issues that are likely to be soon
pressed on the people's attention, such as
the Fisheries Question, Reciprocity and its
effects on our manufactures, Revenue, Im-
perial Federation, Provincial Claims and
who pays the piper, Disallowance in the
North-West, the Labour Question, Tithes
in Québec, the French Language in Ontario
Schools, and other matters that are higher
than parish politics and may be discussed
without reference to party? Then, the third
object that the JOURNAL had in view has
been ignored by the Graduates who have
gone out from us into the wider university
of the world. The fault is theirs, for we
are always ready to give space to communi-
cations from old friends. Are they so busy
making money that they cannot spare time
for an article or a letter? Or, is it possible
that they are forgetting the days of “auld
lang syne?”