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NOW the curtain falls as another volume of the JOURNAL is completed, and we come forward to make our final bow. To the supporters of the Journal are due our sincerest thanks for their encouragement. The Journal of this year does not lay claim to any abnormal preeminence over its predecessors; it has endeavored merely to keep in line with the steady advance which Queen's is making. Aside from the fact that for the first time in its history our sister students are represented on the staff, no striking innovations have been made. It contains more reading matter than any previous Journal and more, for the same price, than any of our college exchanges. In the jubilee number it has given to the friends of Queen's a valuable souvenir of the semi-centennial celebration, as well as a history of the inception and youth of the University. It has endeavored to foster the spirit of loyalty and devotion to Queen's, and to discuss questions or state grievances with moderation and fairness. But now our term of office is past. We lay down our pen, take a last long lingering look at the sanctum, dwelling fondly on each familiar adornment, and not regretfully say, adieu.

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The various events of the closing of the session passed off successfully. The number of graduates was larger than on any previous session, showing that the number of students is gradually increasing. The number who obtained the degree of M.A. was also large. The new regulations concerning the granting of this degree came into force this year for the first time and the degree was conferred on all who had completed their honor courses. The valedictorians deserve a word of praise. Their efforts were of excellent tone, were free from objectionable insinuations, and reflect credit on themselves and the

classes they represent. The grievances of which they complained were stated in a strong straight-forward manner, and without unnecessary acrimony. The laureation of the graduates, the presenting of medals and prizes and the unveiling of brasses was an interesting and imposing part of the proceedings. Among the usual numerous friends of Queen's, who on such occasions occupy seats on the platform, were several distinguished guests from a distance. Three memorial brasses were placed in Convocation Hall in memory of the benefactors of Queen's. The laying of the corner stone of the John Carruthers' Science Hall marks another advance and we hope that the Ontario Legislature will complement this step by establishing a School of Practical Science in Kingston to develop the latent resources of the eastern part of the province. On the whole the convocation was one of the most successful that Queen's has ever seen.

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What steps should be taken to form a permanent bond of union among the alumni and to bring them into closer and more explicit relation to their Alma Mater is a question which naturally suggests itself at such a time as the yearly Convocation. It is true that the students and alumni of Queen's have not been found lacking in loyalty. On all occasions there is an *esprit de corps* which even a casual observer will not mistake for mere sentiment; and when occasion demands, they prove by substantial service the strength of their devotion. Notwithstanding all this there is found only a faithful few of the alumni who attend and take an interest in the closing events of the session. Why is it that so few are present of all the host of graduates within easy reach of Kingston? Why cannot the closing Convocation be made a grand reunion and a renewal of the memory of that most interesting portion of life—college days? The step taken by the years '89 and '90 in forming class societies is a step in the right direction. These years have arranged to have reunions at different intervals, and to issue from time to time reports containing a full account of every member. This example, if followed by subsequent graduating classes, will no doubt ultimately bring about a closer unity of the graduates to their Alma Mater. But a more comprehensive organization is necessary to accomplish the highest result. Why cannot an Alumni Association be formed to include all who have received instruction in the "classic halls?" The benefits which would be derived from such an organization are evident enough. Besides the benefit to the members themselves of meeting together in an annual reunion, the mere fact of being united in a regular organization must itself be a source of strength to Queen's as well as to all the various class and students' societies connected therewith. There are numerous gen-