

The cognizance of the present Honorary President of the Alma Mater Society verifies the statement regarding graduates.

Then, the opportunity for the development of literary taste is not to be overlooked. Little enough may be developed; but it is worth something to know that if a man wishes to try his hand at writing and has something to pen to his fellows, a College sheet is ready for his inscription. By the way, subscriptions are welcome also. The feature of Inter-faculty communication, by means of distinct departments, is comparatively modern and has unexplored potentialities.

But to get at the beginning, let us quote a portion of the Prospectus, issued in the spring of 1873, and published in the first number of the first volume of the JOURNAL, Oct. 25th, 1873:

PROSPECTUS.

"THE STUDENTS OF QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, believing that a paper in connection therewith might be established with advantage to Under-graduates, Graduates, and all connected with the Institution, have resolved to take such steps as may best secure the accomplishment of this object.

"Various considerations induce them to undertake this step, and to hope that it will meet with the success which is anticipated. The want of a paper in which to give expression to their opinions upon questions of general and academic interest is much felt. It is believed that such an organ would infuse a livelier interest into their College life—would afford information upon subjects deeply interesting to every student—and would in an eminent degree tend to strengthen the bond which should ever unite Alumni to their Alma Mater. The University is one of the oldest in the Dominion, and has upon the roll a large and respectable number of graduates whose willing co-operation can be relied upon; it has also numerous and influential friends warmly interested in its prosperity, who, it is hoped, will regard the project with favour. These facts afford ample ground to hope that it will meet with that degree of public patronage which shall insure its complete success."

Its objects are thus stated: Firstly, to foster a literary taste among the students, and to afford them an opportunity of giving expression to their opinions on the leading topics of the day. It is also intended to serve as a bond of union between the University and her Alumni, and to sustain the interest of the latter in the prosperity of their Alma Mater, after they have left her halls.

Secondly, to furnish such information upon

Collegiate and other matters as will be not only valuable to the student, but, it is hoped, interesting to the intelligent public generally. The JOURNAL, moreover, is designed to supply the need, felt at present, of instruction in the principles and practice of journalism, the great practical importance of which has been recognized in several leading Universities in the United States, by the establishment of a Chair for instruction in this branch of study.

That first volume of the JOURNAL makes interesting reading and shews that our paper is not an ephemeral sheet. The Prospectus is full of hope, and we may still hope. There is a *raison d'être* for a College Journal, and it can be made something better than has been. "It is the age itself," says Hawthorne, "that writes newspapers and almanacs, which, therefore, have a distinct purpose and meaning at the time, and a kind of intelligible truth for all times; whereas, most other works—being written by men who, in the very act, set themselves apart from their age—are likely to possess little significance when new, and none at all when old."

Therefore, try writing for the JOURNAL, and induce your lethargic fellow-student to subscribe. Talk it up, at any rate.

Communications.

MR. GORDON'S DEFENCE.

To the Editor:—

IN your last issue you referred in very deprecatory terms to my "address," as you term it, on seconding the motion to receive the report of the retiring Secretary-Treasurer of the Football Executive. Allow me to say that I did mean "what my words indicated,"* but that meaning was very different from the interpretation which you seek to put upon them. It is inconceivable to me how any unprejudiced hearer could so misconstrue my words. I absolutely deny that I outlined any "policy to be followed during the coming year" by the present Executive, or that I advocated or even indirectly referred to such tactics as "anything to win," which words you have given as a quotation without designating their author. I trust you do not mean the public to understand that I used them. If you do, you are surely descending to tactics beneath the dignity and sense of fair play which should characterize the gentleman Editor of *Queen's University Journal*.

Now, Mr. Editor, having repudiated the unjust and debasing sentiments which by a strained exegesis, a sort of allegorical interpretation you found in my words, I wish to state more