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MONTREAL, P.Q., DECEMBER, 1882.

THE old year is fast fleeting to a close, and before another number of our JOURNAL is in your hands, the year 1882 with all its joys and sorrows, defeats and triumphs, will be numbered with the past, and a new year with its precious opportunities, and joyous anticipations, shall have opened before us. At the close of the year a feeling of sadness seems to tinge our spirits. We feel sad at the death-bed of a friend we are about to lose, and it is a feeling somewhat akin to this that we experience as the old year passes away into the never returning past. At such a time we are reminded that one more cycle of time has been added to our probation, bringing with it valuable experiences, and making, let us hope, each one of us wiser and better men. But while we may, it is true, have sad feelings at the close of the year, we also have bright hopes to cheer us. Just as the fading glories of day are soon followed by the glorious sunrise, so, as the old year dies, we hail with joy the advent of a new year. Then we feel the joy of hope, then we make noble resolutions to live a higher and a grander life, and then we resolve that our life will be more earnest in pursuing the ideal we may have laid down for ourselves.

We hope that such aspirations may burn in the hearts of our fellow-students, and that each hope worthy of realization may come to full fruition.

But besides these high and noble aspirations after a truer and better life, we are reminded by the Epicurean part of our nature of other joys that are anticipated at the close of the year. Already thoughts of home are filling our minds, already the glad welcome of the boy from

college is anticipated, already the roast goose and plum pudding rise before our imagination, already the social gathering and pleasant tête-à-tête with the fair sex is seriously interfering with the studies of some of our grave and reverend seniors. But we have said sufficient, it would take an abler pen than ours to describe the feelings that now are throbbing through the students' hearts, and therefore feeling that enough has been said, we close by wishing all our readers a very Merry Christmas and a glad New Year.

THE holidays are fast approaching. Nearly all our students will soon be on their way to meet the happy faces of their friends. Amid their festivities and enjoyments, we trust they will not forget to do something to cheer their *Alma Mater*. Let her also have a share of the good things which abound at this season. Her Missionary Society expects a Christmas box or a New Year's gift from every student. Judging from appeals made to students in behalf of this society in the past, we have reason to believe that, at the close of this prosperous year, they will give an opportunity to their many friends to contribute to its support. Fellow-students, we expect you all to work for our society during the holidays. Will not all our graduates send the society a New Year's present?

WE are glad to notice that our popular *Local and Exchange* editor, Mr. A. Scrimger, is equally popular in his class in McGill. He has been elected valedictorian by the graduating class of '83.

THE annual missionary meetings of the Presbyterian churches in this city were held on the evenings of the 21st, 22nd and 23rd Nov. The chief speakers at these meetings were, the Rev. Dr. Cochrane, of Brantford, Moderator of the General Assembly, the Rev. J. McIntosh, of Philadelphia, and the Rev. J. Hogg, of New Brunswick. Tuesday evening was devoted to Home Missions, Wednesday evening to French Evangelization, and Thursday to Foreign Missions. The meeting on Wednesday evening was specially interesting, owing to the presence of the pupils of the Pointe-aux-Trembles Missien School, who favored the audience by singing several very beautiful hymns. These missionary meetings are very important as a means of interesting and instructing our people in these great fields of labor that lie open to our church. Those who attended the meetings this year were highly favored in listening to the able addresses of the speakers.