

its support and countenance. It is conclusive reply to dubious-minded and hitherto unconvinced individuals prone to believe that united action on the part of McGill graduates was an impossibility, or that the GAZETTE was not in any way concerned in bringing about a better state of things. The members selected for the offices in the University Literary Society were not proposed on the spur of the moment, or from capricious motives. They were fixed on after calm deliberation, because they had qualifications for the positions, and to this important recommendation added the vital characteristic of willingness to do their duty by the Society. Small wonder that under such circumstances the opposition to their election was weak and unsuccessful. When the GAZETTE, as in the present case, voices what it knows to be the intelligent and general opinion of its supporters, the outcome will undoubtedly be a complete vindication of the stand thus taken and the views thus expressed. There cannot be any defeat when a straightforward and well-adviced course is pursued in all similar matters.

The new officers of the Society can show by constant attendance at the meetings, by unremitting attention to all the duties that devolve upon them, exactly how much depends upon the management of the association, and how much upon the co-operation of the members. By the strictest regularity in arranging the business of the meetings, and the general conduct of the society, they can earn the reward which comes from conscientious service, and leave no excuse for the body of the members to stay away as inclination misleads them.

More they cannot do. The fate of the society will in the future as in the past hang upon the action of the members as a whole. With them rests the obligation of doing their share of a work voluntarily assumed, and therefore possessing claims to be properly performed, laying aside the fact of its valuable educative influence and the permanent benefits it bestows. Sanguine hopes have been lately expressed that the University Literary Society will last as long and do as good work as like organizations in Montreal. If this hope is to be realized the new officers will require to be aided by the loyal support of those who from various excuses, sometimes good, but most frequently bad, have weakened in their allegiance to the society. We intend in future to publish the names of all those who attend the meetings in order that it may be known who really are the friends of the Society. This may not be the last time the GAZETTE may put forth efforts to revive University organizations, and we now have good reasons for counting upon that help which has just effected a result so satisfactory.

#### ENCOURAGEMENT AND DISCOURAGEMENT.

It is pleasing to think that very few to whom the first number of the GAZETTE was sent containing the intimation that the copy might be returned if not desired, have responded to the notice. If the payment of one dollar a year is too much for the privilege of keeping up one's connection with one's University, it is in order to ask whether persons who do not see their way to pay this sum have decided that the four or more years spent at college do not demand that they should take any further interest in the institution which gave them higher intellectual life. The influence, then, which stimulated their activities, formed for them friendships of priceless value, and introduced them to the brotherhood of educated men, is all forgotten? The University's progress, which the GAZETTE is proud to chronicle, has become nothing to them. Or their loyalty is of that cheap order which contents itself with words. But we think better of McGill men than this, and rest content in the hope that those who decline to take the college paper, decline because even the small sum indicated cannot be spared. We respect their discretion, and frankly say that this is the only valid objection to be recognized.

One gentleman, however, assigns a different reason, and one which the present editors fail to appreciate or even comprehend. He says that "for obvious reasons he has ceased to become a subscriber, and the copy sent him is therefore returned." We have no concern with the mysterious motives hinted at and are constrained to imagine that the obstacle to his giving the same encouragement extended to the GAZETTE by the Principal of the University down to the youngest undergraduate may be a loftiness of mind, with consequent inability to aid so humble an enterprise as this. It is refreshing to turn to the sentiments of another graduate, who writes from a distant Province: "Continue to send me the GAZETTE, but to the above address." Thank you! Your brief note is as encouraging as the cold indifference of some nearer home is disheartening. However, we shall pursue our labors, inspired by the thought that our intentions are good, but feeling that

'Tis not in mortals to command success,  
But we'll do more; we'll deserve it.

#### STUDENTS' MEETINGS.

The careless manner in which men are nominated for office in the college classes and societies of McGill is an evil which has been steadily growing for some years. Students are chosen, primarily because they are conspicuous at the meetings when nominations are made, and then for any reason that calls attention to