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## Queen's College Journal

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IN this number we present the portrait of our newest professor. His long work in connection with Queen's was recognized by his appointment last session to the chair of Natural Science. His indefatigable energy, displayed in every department of his work, has borne good results. Not the least of these results is the present efficient state of the museum, the equipment of which is due principally to his efforts. For a fuller sketch of his life we refer our readers to another column.

Now that the excitement of the elections is past and things are beginning to assume their normal condition, we shall endeavor to sum up the results calmly and dispassionately. We do not pretend to have such a comprehensive grasp of the position of affairs as to predict with certainty all the results of the past election, or even to indicate the course which the government ought to pursue. We might offer some suggestions, but refrain lest we should in any way embarrass the future action of the party in power.

An intense interest was manifested in the contest by the students—an interest not confined to the volatile undergrad, but extending even to the grave and reverend senior in divinity. There was no doubt a great deal of unreasoning enthusiasm and blind adherence to party, but at the same time there was seen a desire to obtain an independent understanding of the vital question which came up for discussion. It is a hopeful sign to see students take an active interest in a struggle bearing such important issues for the country. And we are inclined to think that party feeling in the college did not reach such a fever heat as it did among the various circles of

machine politicians. The student, if true to the name, in endeavouring to learn the real bearing of the questions which affect the welfare of the country should seek to get a wider view than that presented by the ring politician. To support a party does not necessarily mean to be fettered to it, but when party becomes the end and not the means this is an evil. The mere votary of a party is a slave and no free man.

The manifestations of this evil are seen everywhere. We have seen the interests of a city sacrificed on the altar of partyism by the veriest puerility of a deadlock. We have witnessed the humiliating spectacle of an intelligent (?) audience applauding to the echo the purest gush and verbiage containing scarcely the ghost of a reason, and elevating the utterer to the position of an oracle or a demigod. Here we have a modern manifestation of a very ancient form of idolatry. We refer to the calf worship of ancient Israel. The efforts of the average stump orator are not exerted in putting the questions fairly before the people for their consideration and instruction, but by every possible means, whether by suppression, exaggeration or misrepresentation to gain votes for the party he represents. This also is an evil.

But what shall we say of the acknowledged leaders of politics who hurl at each others heads the most opprobrious epithets, and seek to brand each other with the mark of disloyalty? They make a great commotion no doubt and fill the atmosphere with clouds of dust, but vision is thereby obscured. This is a very convenient method, as it costs little and often accomplishes the end for which it was intended. But since by this means the clear view of the question at issue is obscured, and politics is degraded into chicanery, a real injury is inflicted upon the country, and an insult offered to intelligence and morality. We cannot but conclude then that the leaders of the parties who have employed such tactics and have brought against each other the charge of disloyalty, being condemned by the very means they have adopted, are both found guilty of the charge.

We do not mean to say that no attempt whatever was made to discuss the question at issue. Freer trade relations with the United States was the question upon which the election was made to hinge, and this question was to a certain extent discussed on the platform and by the press. In this fact there is an indication that the mind of the public is coming gradually to consider the gravity of the problem which now presents itself to Can-