

QUEEN'S

UNIVERSITY JOURNAL

VOL. XXII.

KINGSTON, CANADA, NOV. 17TH, 1894.

No. 2.

Queen's University Journal,

Published by the Alma Mater Society of Queen's University in Twelve Fortnightly Numbers, during the Academic year.

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The annual subscription is One Dollar, payable before the end of January.

All literary contributions should be addressed to the Editor, Drawer 1109, Kingston, Ont.

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THE special feature of this number of the JOURNAL is the address delivered by Dr. Watson at the opening of the Theological Faculty. To give our readers an opportunity of studying closely this well-timed and inspiring address we have enlarged the number by four pages. Considering the large amount of reading contained in an ordinary issue, this is rather an unusual step, but we feel confident that it will meet with general approval. Though more or less familiar with Dr. Watson's utterances, as published in the *Sunday Afternoon Addresses* and *Queen's Quarterly*, it is not often our privilege to have an address of this kind brought into such immediate contact with student-life as the JOURNAL can afford. Every student and graduate of the University owes too deep a debt to Dr. Watson to pass over without thoughtful study an address on a subject of such vital interest to all.

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It is often urged against the Alma Mater Society that it does not fill its place as the patron of Literature and Art. Tacitly the charge is admitted, for every year promises of reform are liberally made by candidates at election time. But it is gratifying to know that even in the height of the Football season, when the physical man is the hero of the hour, the things of the mind are not forgotten; for the Society

has generously undertaken to give the students and citizens of Kingston a rich literary treat by bringing here Mr. David Christie Murray. And it is still more gratifying to know that no sinister motive, such as making money, lurks in the act but that out of pure love of letters they are giving us a privilege usually enjoyed only by the larger cities. Christie Murray is chiefly known in America as a novelist of good rank but in England he enjoys a high reputation as an Author and Lecturer. Well versed in English Literature he is still more a student of human life, and his varied experiences, as a private soldier at home and abroad, as war correspondent of the *London Times* and as a traveller in many countries, have given him a rich fund of illustration and anecdote. This with his rich humour and a personality amounting to genius makes him a fascinating entertainer. His first appearance in America was at Boston a short time ago, where he fairly delighted large audiences, and the papers are loud in his praises. The fact that he comes here on the recommendation of Principal Grant and Professor Watson ought to ensure him a good hearing.

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That Queen's has made remarkable progress within the last ten years is very evident when we compare the number of men who took Honour work in the session of 1884-1885, with the number who are doing so now.

At that time only the men of rare courage and high ambition thought of undertaking the work of an Honour course. The staff was small and therefore a great deal of the Honour work had to be done by the students without any help from the professors. The degree of M.A. was conferred, not at the completion of the Honour Course, as now, but a year from the date of graduation; and that only upon those who had previously written a satisfactory thesis embodying the results of original research. Now, things are much changed. The staff has been increased to such an extent that specializing can be and is being done in every department, and no student need work alone. The M.A. degree is conferred at the completion of the Honour Course and no thesis is required; and as a result every man's ambition is to take an Honour Course and the degree of M.A. to which it leads.