

is most important. He need not hope to be highly appreciated by his fellows, and perhaps the truer he is to real culture the less he will be known and applauded. Yet his work, if done well, will last and that is the main thing.

The popular mind is a curious collection of inconsistencies. The average individual holds together, without any sense of discrepancy, a mass of notions derived from various sources and altogether heterogeneous. Latent contradiction is there in abundance but it remains latent, for this mass of notions is not stirred by the ferment of living thought.

Men come to college with such a mass of notions; they should go away with a system of thought from which all effete matter has been expelled. It is such a mental transformation as this, and no mere passing of examinations, which will make them true, though kindly, critics of life and benefactors of the race. Many students are not exacting enough with themselves. They rest content with much less than a thorough transformation of thought; the vitalizing ferment of reflection does not penetrate the whole mass of their notions, and just so far as this is true they fail to realize the object of a college course.

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Few exchanges reach us whose editors do not in some way complain of the non-support of college institutions by the undergraduate body of their respective colleges. Various reasons are assigned for such neglect of manifest duty on the part of students, and many are the devices which have been suggested to remedy this evil. Strangely enough several of the panaceas prescribed by our brother editors as a cure for decaying college spirit, such, for example, as a great central body that shall control the workings of all minor societies, are already in actual existence at Queen's. And yet it does not require much effort of introspection to show that we too are suffering from the common evil, to a less extent, perhaps, than some other colleges, but sufficiently to hamper seriously the working of several of our most important institutions. Ask the average undergraduate the cause of this and he will probably excuse the selfishness and remissness of himself and his fellow-delinquents by the plea that such institutions are not representative, are controlled by graduates or men who are not closely in touch with the great body of students. And though even this fact is no excuse for his conduct, we find, on reflection, that he is not far from the truth with regard to the influence exerted by the older students. The existence in close connection with the Arts Faculty of the Divinity and Medical Faculties insures the presence among us of a considerable number of gradu-

ates, in many instances men who have identified themselves with college institutions from the beginning of their course, and for this reason possess the confidence of their fellow-students. As a result there is, perhaps, laid upon them a rather disproportionate share of responsibility in the management of societies to which graduates are eligible for membership. Their past record is a guarantee that they will conscientiously and to the best of their ability discharge the duties assigned to them. Our graduates are seldom obtrusive in seeking such appointments. Instances may be cited in which they have entrenched upon offices which custom has dedicated to the undergraduate, but such cases are rare. What is desirable then is not that graduates should take less interest in student institutions, but that undergraduates should take more. So many of our men are an unknown quantity outside their class work that in proposing a committee or selecting officers for any of our societies the choice of men is really quite limited unless we select them at a venture. Many good men who are prominent in the counsels of their own year ignore other institutions entirely and they remain practically unknown to the general body of students. There are scores of men who could benefit both themselves and their fellow-students by taking an actual interest in student organizations who are scarcely heard of except in examination lists. If graduates are too prominent in our societies it is largely because so many of the best men among the undergraduates shirk their responsibilities as citizens of a college democracy.

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**IN MEMORY OF DUNCAN McRAE, DIED MARCH
12th, 1897.**

A hush has fall'n upon our joyous throng
Where late the merry tones of laughter rose,
Silenced the usual jest, the jovial song;
The ceaseless banter now no longer flows.

The angel, Death, has sped on shadowy wings
And breathed on one who to our hearts was dear;
In place of our late gladness, sorrow brings
The heartfelt sigh, the unavailing tear.

We scarce believe that him whom we have known
In manly strength excelling all beside,
Death can have claimed so early for his own,
And quench'd his life yet in its youthful pride.

It seems as if but yesterday he stood
Endow'd with all that youth and vigor gave,
A genial friend, a comrade true and good,
A man at all times kind, when need be, brave.

But now his ear has heard that voiceless call
Which summons from the living to the dead,
Which casts o'er brightest hopes a gloomy pall,
And shows our fond anticipations fled.