

to enhance the prosperity of the University. That means, we believe, *Rouge et Noir* will afford.

Furthermore, we are desirous to set our relations with other Universities on a more familiar footing, and not to be so self-ostracized from the College world as heretofore. Alive to the necessity of a bold beginning, we have acted thus far on our own responsibility, with confidence that we need only evince that we have the will to press this undertaking, to rally all true supporters of the College to our aid. We have begun with a quarterly issue, inasmuch as we have no means of judging how great will be our support or how extensive our patronage. Should results justify such a change, a more frequent publication is of course desirable. Since it is our aim to advance the highest interests of the University, we invite for our columns free and liberal discussion on all topics pertaining to it, assuming in no case responsibility for the opinions of our contributors. A digest of College and personal news will appear in each number, and we earnestly solicit items of this character. We intend that *Rouge et Noir* shall be the exponent of unprejudiced, broad, and liberal views, and shall ever be ready to cry up a sober, steady, sensible, course of reform.

We trust that in our criticism on any point, we shall not be misunderstood. We would escape the imputation of being demolishers only, and purpose ever to throw a suggestion of improvement into the gap we have theoretically made. Moreover, these opinions may, in the main, be regarded as emanating from within, where, most of all, abuses and mismanagement may be appreciated, and we crave their due consideration from the very facilities we have for discerning the results of the existing system.

In conclusion, we urge all, Undergraduates, Alumni, and friends from without, if our efforts appear worthy of seconding, to come to our support with a will, and join with us in converting this small beginning into a valuable and important University organ.

We have repeatedly noticed during the past season the deeper interest taken by the general public in the Association game of football, nor can we regard this in any way surprising, for without discussing in detail the relative merits of the Rugby game as contrasted with it, we are able to offer a most obvious explanation. The Association possesses that pro-

verbial strength of unity we so deplorably lack. While there are within our own ken, no less than ten Rugby clubs in Ontario, there has never been any organization, or mutual understanding as to definite rules, we have not, like the Association clubs, a tribunal to which to refer all disputes, we have no facilities for arranging a definite series of matches by which every club is brought into contact with every other, and in fact we appear to the public to be the few-and-far-between representatives of a game that is being rapidly superseded by a better. All this is greatly to be deprecated; and we recommend that a meeting of representatives from all these clubs be assembled in this City during the winter, to organize a permanent Rugby Association. Meantime we earnestly urge all to consider the expediency of such a course, and especially our sister University, to join with us in taking the initiative.

Trinity has always been a subject of much concern to those avowedly hostile to her. For nearly thirty years she has been surfeited with advice from without of a more or less pertinent character. Her advisers have suggested many strange courses, though in most cases they have taken pains to demolish rather than to edify. A timely hint is often not amiss, and, if honest and practical, Trinity, we have no doubt, would accept it on its merits. But it is to the class of thoughtless writers, who flood the public press with hap-hazard assertions and unnatural deductions, that we wish to draw our readers' attention. As a specimen of what we refer to we find a Toronto Curate—a comparatively new comer—the Rev. Mr. Rainsford to be the latest victim of this contagion. In a letter to the daily press he has lately put forth a suggestion—calmly and seriously, no doubt, and honestly, we presume. He asks, in effect, that this University should be blotted out, and that in its place a New Trinity should be established in the form of a Divinity School—a most desirable adjunct to the secular University of Toronto. * * *

Twenty-nine years ago, the good Bishop of Toronto was the means of raising a large fund for the purpose of establishing a Church of England University, and much money was subscribed, both here and in England, to supply a want felt by a large section of the public.

Many a poor missionary gave a tithe of his year's income for the avowed purpose of maintaining an University

in direct antagonism to its secular sister, who, with Government aid and the lion's share of our predecessor's estate, was no mean rival. And now, in plain language, what does Mr. Rainsford ask? That Trinity's trustees, heedless of their grave responsibilities, legal and moral, should fraudulently surrender her charter and misapply the trust funds committed to them, that a rich body of malcontents may be saved the expense of establishing their ideal Divinity School.

This, undoubtedly, is the Rev. gentleman's request, unless he pleads an ignorance of historical facts and their natural inference. And granting Mr. Rainsford an honesty of purpose, surely his is a very flippant manner of dealing with a serious subject. If, to his mind, Trinity is ripe for disintegration, is not such handling as this a mere toying with the death knell. Supposing we grant him his case, what a statement of it! The trumpet is sounded from without that our walls may fall down flat; but has not the enemy neglected to encompass the subject of his wrath? If Mr. Rainsford is in earnest let him state his case clearly, and not make a weak suggestion dependent on a false premiss. We should apologize to our readers for giving such prominence to the *Globe's* correspondent, were it not that the letter referred to is based on the assumption that Trinity is in a moribund condition. And yet, as all graduates know, our prospects were never brighter, nor our numbers greater. Trinity is not going to die. On her behalf we resent the idea of suicide, suggested by her ill-wishers, and their impudence in contemplating a will in their favour.

A FAREWELL.

We could have wished to present to our readers our first number all sprightly and hopeful, without a hint of sorrow. This was not to be. It is with feelings of unmingled regret that we refer to the Provost's resignation, and his imminent departure for England.

Connected with Trinity from its foundation, his name has become so inseparably linked to it, that it will be hard not only for old Trinity men, but also, we imagine, for the country at large, to disassociate them.

We do not intend here to panegyricize him; it is needless, nor to review his life. That life spent, for the greater part, in noble devotion to a noble cause, has been long before