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EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

SALUTATORY.

With this issue the FORTNIGHTLY resumes its circulation among the students of McGill. We feel that it will be a source of some gratification to those enterprising spirits who established this journal upon its present basis four years ago, to know, that since it has passed out of their hands, and they out of the current of University life, it has not ceased to prosper, and now, with every prospect of success, enters upon its fourth volume. This has been mainly owing to the loyal support of the University students and the kindness of those friends who have from time to time spoken to them in "divers tones" through its columns.

It has been suggested that a University like McGill could very well publish two journals: one to reflect the severer thought of the University, and the other in a lighter vein, and to depend entirely upon the students for literary support. We concur in this suggestion. Until the way is made clear, however, for the establishment of such another journal, it remains for the FORTNIGHTLY to mirror college thought and life alone, and to meet the present exi-

gencies as best it can. Obviously there are difficulties, and these the present editors fully appreciate. They hope, however, to drift to neither extreme, but to produce, if possible, a bright and readable journal, entertainingly instructive to the student, and one in which he can feel he has a personal interest; and they aim not to recede from the literary standard so happily set by their predecessors in 1892.

The students are invited to contribute to these columns. The FORTNIGHTLY is their paper. From this point of view we are led to believe that this paper has been ill appreciated in the past. Yet, we conceive it is one of perhaps the two best institutions carried on by the students in immediate connection with their work. In the Undergraduates Literary Society the student may learn to speak readily and forcibly our glorious English speech, and here may he not acquire some skill in writing it. The importance of this matter was touched upon by Professor Callendar at last Convocation, and we cannot refrain from quoting him:—

"But there is no language," said he, "either living or dead, which in importance can for one moment compare with our mother tongue. It is the English language that you are most in danger of neglecting,—the language in which you have to speak, and write, and think, and the neglect of which will cost far more seriously than all the rest. Not only is English your mother tongue, but it is also the greatest and most widespread language in all the earth, if we believe, statistically, that 'at no very distant future date English will become the universal language of the world.' Those who have literary and political ambitions, and who wish to command the largest audiences for all time, must speak and write English. To the lawyer, the literary man, the engineer, a knowledge of his own language, and the ability to write it correctly and clearly, is of paramount importance. Clear reasoning is impossible without clear expression, and without clear expression no engineer can possibly be worthy of the name."

This language was addressed particularly to the Science students; but we trust the students in all branches will see its force and practical bearing.

Concluding, we would not forget the Freshmen. We extend to them a hearty welcome to the classes of all Faculties. We know they will enter enthusi-