

The Owl.

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THE STUDENTS OF THE COLLEGE OF OTTAWA.

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THE OWL is the journal of the students of the College of Ottawa. Its object is to aid the students in their literary development, to chronicle their doings in and out of class, and to unite more closely the students of the past and present to their Alma Mater.

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A DILEMMA.

Just at the time when so much is being written and spoken pro and con on the question of the Jesuit Estates Compensation Act, the editor of *United Canada* puts the whole argument in the shape of a dilemma which is almost as worthy of the attention of students of philosophy as the famous dilemma of Tertullian. Seeing that Protestant journalists and preachers are laying much stress upon the Jesuits' having been suppressed by the Pope, Father Coffey answers them thus. Either you recognize the authority of the Pope over the Society of Jesus or you do not. If you do, then you must admit his right

to confiscate their property to the Church. If you do not, the Society of Jesus never should have ceased to exist as a body corporate. In either case the Crown did an act of injustice by appropriating the lands which were guaranteed to the Society by the Treaty of Paris, of which injustice the present act of compensation is but a tardy acknowledgement.

FRATERNITYISM.

Not very long since we read in one of our exchanges that many colleges seemed to be metamorphosing from educational institutions devoted to teaching and study into chapter-houses given up to "meetings" and "initiations." The remark was a good-humoredly satirical one, and it did not seem to come from a genuine feeling that the students in American colleges were overdoing the fraternity business. Still we are inclined to think that such is the case. The prodigious increase of Greek letter societies would be amusing to contemplate if it were not that some evil effects may arise therefrom. Surely we can pardon the naturalist who seeing the grotesque spirit of imitation which seems to be inherent in man tried to prove him akin to that race of lower animals in which the art of mimicry is most highly developed. On a certain day some time within the last three hundred years, a society was established by some college men with three Greek letters for a title. This was but a little acorn, but behold there is now a mighty oak whose roots stretch far and wide, and whose arms give shelter to all the colleges of the land. No college worthy of the name will attempt to exist without one or two of these fraternities, the chief outward feature of whose constitution seems to be that they shall be labelled with the cabalistic Hellenic symbols. Could the old Greeks have known to what noble uses their linguistic signs would be elevated, they would