



From an etching by Chester B. Price

Harvard Hall

C 131431

A CLUB, according to the dictionary, is "an association of persons for the promotion of some common object." But Macaulay, who knew his clubs, appears to have favored a more flexible and much more inviting conception. Writing of Oliver Goldsmith, Macaulay said that "he was one of the nine original members of that celebrated fraternity which has sometimes been called the Literary Club, but which has always disavowed that title, and still glories in the simple name of The Club."

Today, as in Goldsmith's time, the requirements for a successful club include much more than "some common object." There must also be among the members some common background of cherished experience—some bond that will tend to preserve and strengthen certain valued associations of the past, to foster new friendships, and to insure mutual respect and understanding.

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On October 31, 1865—at a time when this country was faced, as it is today, with many serious problems of recovery and reconstruction—Harvard graduates living in New York City received the following notice:

"A meeting of a few Alumni of Harvard College, resident in New York, was held October 26th, to con-

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