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— EDITED BY —

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We are again obliged to call the attention of our subscribers to the necessity of paying up more promptly. It is impossible to run the monthly without money, and unless money comes in more freely than it has during the last term we will not have enough funds to pay the printer. We trust that none of our subscribers will be offended at being asked to pay up. This duty though a disagreeable, is nevertheless a necessary one, and if we, as editors, do our part to the best of our ability, it is no more than fair that our subscribers should furnish us with the money necessary to carry on the publication.
—*Ex.*

We would direct the attention of our subscribers to the above, copied from the *University Monthly*. It expresses our sentiments exactly.—*Ed. Bema.*

PRIZES.

In addition to the nine prizes given in the regular work of the Institution, by persons hereafter to be announced, we mention the following:

BEST SCHOLARSHIP—To the graduate in the full Seminary course passing the best final examination in every department of study, a medal given by Geo. A. Hetherington, M. D.

ELOCUTION—To the successful competitor in a public Rhetorical contest at the June commencement, a medal given by H. A. McKeown, Esq., M. P. P.

ENTRANCE PRIZE—To the student in the Preparatory Department who sustains the best examination for entrance upon the regular Seminary course.

VALENTINE'S DAY.

AMONG all the days we celebrate, I think that Valentine's Day is, perhaps, the most peculiar. Many explanations have been given of its origin, some going as far back as the Ancient Romans. It is said that in February, during the Lupercalia, they were accustomed "to put the names of young women into a box, from which they were drawn as chance directed." This custom was objected to by the Christian clergy, who, finding that they could not do away with it altogether, attempted to give it a religious aspect by substituting the name of certain saints for those of the women. I have heard that even now the members of the Roman Catholic Church select, on this day, a patron saint whom they call a Valentine.

In Bailey's Dictionary the following explanation is given.—About this time of the year the birds choose their mates, and probably thence came the custom of the young men and maidens choosing valentines or special loving friends on that day.

In the 15th century the popular way of celebrating this 14th of February was to gather together a number of young folk—maids and bachelors—and to write on pieces of paper the names of their friends, an equal number of each sex. Each member of the company would then draw one from the box into which they had been put, care, of course, being taken that each would draw one of the opposite sex, and the person thus drawn became one's valentine. For a whole year the bachelor had to be attentive to his chosen, and what was begun in fun often ended in something serious, *i. e.*, an engagement.

It seems that now the day has altogether lost the meaning it once possessed and is considered by most people to be a perfect nuisance. As the 14th draws near we see displayed in the shop windows a vast number of missives, generally consisting of a single sheet of paper on which is drawn a hideous figure with a few burlesque verses written below. Sometimes these missives are of a sentimental character and picture some couple before the altar being initiated into wedded happiness, others have a few thrilling love verses.

"This world would be dark without thee,
The days would be dreary and long,
For thou hast the charm about thee,
To give me sweet sunshine and song.