

# Queen's College Journal.

VOL. XX.

FEBRUARY 4TH, 1893.

No. 12.

## Queen's College Journal,

Published weekly by the Alma Mater Society  
of Queen's University during the  
academic year.

A. E. ROSS, B.A., - - - Editor-in-Chief.  
J. W. MUIRHEAD, B.A., - Managing Editor.  
FRANK HUGO, B.A., - Business Manager.

The annual subscription is \$1.00, payable  
before the end of January.

All literary contributions should be ad-  
dressed to the Editor, Drawer 1104, Kingston,  
Ont.

All communications of a business nature  
should be addressed to the Business Manager.

NOW that we have received and adopted  
the report of the Royal Commission  
appointed by the A.M.S. to inquire into the  
sale of picture frames which was held during  
the summer, we have probably heard the last  
of a rather unpleasant business. It is, we fear,  
impossible to acquit of gross carelessness and  
incapacity those who held the sale; still, as  
we said on Saturday night, the excellent way  
in which they performed the other portions of  
the work they had in charge goes far to make  
amends for their fault in this particular in-  
stance.

With the suggestion made by a correspond-  
ent in last week's JOURNAL, we heartily agree.  
All members of the A.M.S. who purchased  
frames at that sale should at once return them,  
that they may now be sold in a proper way.  
Such an act would of course be wholly volun-  
tary on their part; for they have a legal right  
to keep them if they so choose. Some, we  
find from the report, were purchased by out-  
siders. With the loss incurred on these we  
will have to put up. But it would be a good  
problem for our Honour Mathematical men:  
if 3 frames, sold then for 65 cents, bring \$3.10  
now, what would 49 frames, sold then for  
\$11.30, bring now?

\* \* \*

Perhaps the whole affair will be of use in  
directing the attention of the A.M.S. to the

very hap-hazard way in which it appoints its  
committees, and the slovenly fashion in which  
a good deal of its business is done. The  
course pursued is usually of the following  
nature. A member gives notice that at the  
next meeting he will move the appointment of  
a committee to transact some business. At the  
next meeting he does so, usually choosing the  
first few names that occur to him after the  
meeting has started. These are voted on, in  
nearly every case without any discussion; the  
consequence being that business of importance  
is handed over to men regarding whose fitness  
to perform it no one has given the least  
thought. Nor is this all. Men are often ap-  
pointed before their willingness to act has been  
ascertained; very rarely does the secretary  
notify them that they have been appointed;  
everything in short is left to arrange itself.  
The wonder is not that this particular Read-  
ing Room Committee did one part of its work  
so badly, but that our committees in general  
are as satisfactory as they are.

\* \* \*

It has often been said, but can never be too  
often repeated, that the A.M.S. is not a body  
outside of the students, but one of which all  
should feel themselves members. Everyone  
admits this, and yet too many of us when we  
are tested show that in reality we do not think  
so. Thus, when a committee is appointed,  
the members expect praise if they do their  
work well; we often hear it said: I did so  
and so, and never got a word of thanks. This  
should not be. If a man does not want to  
serve on a committee, or feels himself incapa-  
ble of doing so satisfactorily, let him refuse to  
be put on; but when on let him do the work  
to the best of his ability, not in order to win  
praise, but that he may increase the prosperity  
of the body of which he forms an integral  
part. So, if a member is asked to read a  
paper, or in any way take part in the evening's  
programme, let him do so if he possibly can,  
and be only too glad to do his duty by helping  
on his Alma Mater; and if his fellow-students