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Editorials.

THE UNIVERSITY LITERARY SOCIETY.

WE are glad to hear that a great effort is shortly to be made to rescue this Society from the moribund state in which it has been allowed to remain during the past few years. Some of the older members have not deserted it in its languishing condition, and they, assisted by the young additions made each year, have contrived to keep it alive, but with its former brilliancy dimmed and its former influence and usefulness sadly impaired. Many are the flimsy excuses given by those who should have supported the Society to account for the shameful neglect which has brought an honorable institution of the graduates to the brink of dissolution. One was that the members of the Faculty of Law monopolised all the offices, controlled all the proceedings, and had driven out those who wished to see it in fact what it was in name only, a University Society. But we may be pardoned for saying plainly

that such a charge was and is entirely unjustifiable. The predominance of the legal fraternity in the active membership has been the effect and not the cause of desertion of men from the other Faculties. In truth, the members may be divided into but two classes, those who had the will and spirit to maintain the Society, and those who had not. The former class is largely made up of the recent graduates, and the law students, and it is to them that the survival of the Society is mainly due, and from them that its re-establishment upon a firmer foundation is expected. That the senior members shall be permitted to fill the important offices,—coming to the annual meeting for this purpose of voting themselves in, and then practically ignoring the Society for the rest of the season—is too much for human nature to stand. The honorable exceptions among them who have labored assiduously on its behalf, and who by age and position are entitled to rank as leaders may reasonably claim, and be granted, a proper share in the control. But they are not many, and the sympathy of every well-wisher of the Society will naturally be on the side of those younger members who aim at increasing its success and restoring it once again to its pristine vigor.

A critical stage in the Society's history has been reached. The time for indulging in sorrowful regret has passed. The time for prompt action has arrived, and with it the opportunity of placing the management in the hands of those who will do their duty, who will be supported in their efforts by the rank and file of the actual members, and with it the chance of rewarding that dilatory conduct which has trifled with an important work, and nearly brought a useful association into contempt and derision. For, when the meetings of a University Literary Society can only muster an average attendance of a dozen persons, people will naturally form a poor opinion of the status of its Alma Mater, and estimate the intelligence and energy of the graduates and undergraduates at a very low figure.

The report, therefore, that certain members of whose capabilities much hope is entertained, have been selected as candidates for the offices to be filled on Friday, will be regarded as a promising sign of future improvement. These members whose names have been mentioned are said to fairly represent the element likely to infuse new life into the Society. The desire