

WE call the attention of the Students to our advertising columns, and request that they deal with the merchants represented there as far as it is practicable. It is no more than just that we should patronize those who favor us. In soliciting advertisements the committee promised those advertising our support, and we trust that the Students will fulfil the committee's promise.

THIS first issue of the ASTRUM ALBERTI is mailed to all the Graduates and Undergraduates of the University whose address can be learned, and also to a number of old Students and Friends of the College. It would require more time than is at our disposal to write each a note personally, soliciting subscription, but if the amount of subscription is sent to the secretary, Mr. J. T. Lillie, he will acknowledge the receipt of it, and enter your name on the list. There will be six issues published during the remainder of the session, the subscription for which is fifty cents.

NOW that the Christmas holidays are past, and the excitement and jollity of the return are to a great extent over, the students seem to have settled down to a hard term's work. All have apparently enjoyed a good time, and vie with each other in telling huge stories of roast goose and plum pudding. No one enjoys a good meal, or can do it better justice, than a college student, as doubtless our friends and parents can testify. But these things are over, and we must adapt ourselves to our situation. The term opens with a greatly increased attendance, especially in the Grammar School and Commercial departments. With many of the new students, this is the first time that they have packed their little trunk and struck out from home and mother. We occasionally hear a voice that has not yet learned the beauties of "Old Grimes," chanting "Home, Sweet Home," keeping time with a doleful step in the halls. We know how to sympathize, for we were there once ourselves.

WE read with lively interest the proceedings of the late session of the Methodist Union Committee, and that of the M. E. Church at Napanee, and were pleased to notice that the various questions propounded were discussed and settled so amicably. If Union is soon to be consummated, as seems very probable at present, we are led to enquire into its effect upon the Educational Institutions. We have only one Methodist sister in the west, the University of Victoria College, and whether these shall continue to have a separate existence, or be amalgamated into one University, are questions that are meeting with various solutions. We see no solution of the problem by the legislative bodies of the Churches, and presume that this matter is left for the first General Conference of the united Church, in case of union. Their near geographical position will be the principal difficulty in maintaining their separate existence, and it has been proposed to consolidate the two and remove them to some city in the western part of the Province. This would undoubtedly meet with very serious objections from both Cobourg and Belleville, and would, we think, be a matter of injustice to them.

We avow no antagonism to the Union movement, and cherish the highest respect and most cordial good-feeling toward our sister University, whose charter is the oldest in the Province, nor do we suppose that consolidation would lessen the honor of our graduates, but we feel justified in maintaining that it would be to the advantage of the educational work of the Church to preserve both of them singly, if practicable.

Our Institution has struggled under many embarrassments in the past quarter of a century, and its sustenance has required much sacrifice from ministry and laity, and, standing in the present brighter light, we recount with pleasure the many triumphs of the past, and confidently look forward to a successful future, and are not yet quite prepared to surrender our individuality. While we anxiously await the issue, we feel confident that our interests will be most sacredly guarded.