

restraint has to be exercised that even a fair amount of time may be reserved for study. Under different conditions in this respect there would have been more students present.

The Christmas Journal.

The Journal will this year follow the example of the editorial staff of last year in issuing a special Christmas number. An effort will be made to have this issue in the hands of the students by Tuesday, 20th. The contents will be made as attractive as the circumstances attending the publication of a college journal will permit. If there is any excess literary ability fretting in silence we will welcome any expression of its existence in the form of story or descriptive article.

Count Tolstoi.

Count Leo Tolstoi, author, reformer, recluse half his life, in the strongest current of events the other half, a man with a message for the people of his age and the genius to express it, is dead, and the world in diversity of judgment on his life notes the eccentricity of his habits or the sanity of his measure for the betterment of the Russian peasant. Tolstoi, despatches relate, just before his death, had resolved to go apart from his fellowmen and devote the remainder of his days to contemplation. The same pious aspiration is said to have possessed St. Francis, the founder of the Franciscian Order of Monks. But on his way to his retreat Tolstoi was overtaken by death. His life, as it has become known to the world, exhibits a mind with many sided powers in which the wisdom of the student and the thinker appears blended with a good deal of practical sagacity. It was, however, through his literary work that Tolstoi delivered his message and sought the betterment of the conditions of life of the common people of his country. It is remarkable that in the alleged tyranny of the government of Russia and its tendency to limit the expression of opinion adverse to its acts he should have escaped some form of punishment for his direct attacks. It is true that his work was hampered at times, but he lived out his years without anything more than a temporary subsidence of his efforts on behalf of the peasant. As a young man Tolstoi was a member of the aristocracy of his country and the possessor of an extensive estate. He later divested himself of a great deal of his property and for a time lived as a peasant amongst peasants. He enlisted as a soldier in certain wars in which his country was engaged and later took up the work of authorship. From that period until his death reports of his propaganda for the reforms that would open the door of opportunity to the peasant, of his diverse literary activity, have reached the outside world. Pamphlet after pamphlet have come from his pen aimed against the evils that were rife in Russia. He attacked the principle of government and the measures of those in power. Until the end he remained a force against evil. He was not gifted with the talents of a robust leader or perhaps the goal of his efforts was one impossible of attainment in the years of even his long life. At one time he