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Literary Societies of Ottawa University

On the afternoon of Dec 17th

1869 the students of ~~Ottatt~~

Ottawa University meet to take

Action concerting the organization

Of the first literary society of this

Institution. The results of this

Meeting and the one held Dec 21

 Was the organization of the

Oufehemian society, which held

Its first regular meeting Jan 4th

1870 with L,H, holt, ( new edition of

The western baptist,) in the chair

The member of this society. ~~Ms~~

Numbered 38 and among this number

We notice the names of some who

Are now prominent businessmen

In this city, the society

Continued to prosper during that

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 Year but the next year, owing

To the fact that only a few of its

Members returned to school

They found if impracticable to

Continue their meetings and so in

Connection with the public school

Organized a new society with its

Headquarters or the old Brick S.H,

The next society of which we find

~~And~~ any mention is the calliopean,

The records state that on Oct 29

1877 a meeting was called by

Prof. Williams who stated the object

Of the meeting to be the organization

Of a literary society, Prof. Williams

Was elected president and for the first

Year or so the society was under

The personal suppression of the

Faculty. Among the Teaching workers

We find the names of mesrs bass

And whitney and modern triumvirate

Whitecotton, Dicklow and fred stolt .

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Everything went along smoothly until

The autumn of 1882 when the

Young ladies headed by the precep-

Tress, miss Varnum, seceded and in

The room across the hall around

One dimly lighted lamp me~~e~~t and

Took the first steps towards ~~organg~~

Organizing a society of their

Own sept 15 1882. The name

Chosen was “Ladies Athenian”

The Athenian society started out

Under the most promising curcum-

Stances with 19 charter members and

During the first year the society was

Very prosperous, but the same

Cannot be said of the calliopean

Society, it never recovered from

Its loss, it lingered along for

A few months but on the night

Of March 30th 1883 it passed away.

Lin attempt was made at the

 Beginning of the next school year

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To resurrect it but in vain, the

 Calliopean society was a thing of

The past. The young men, were with

Without a society until Dec 1st 1883

When they met and formed the

Kappa nu Kappa, this society

Was short lived but it should

Ever be remembered that it was

Through its efforts that the

Olympian was formed. The young

Men believed that the last past

of the proverb, “untited we stand,

divided we fall”, had been

satisfactory proven by the societies

this truth of the first part, united

we stand”, with this object in

view, they appointed a committee

to visit the ladies society and to

 use all honorable means to effect

a union between the two, the

young ladies though struggling with

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Many difficulties for an existence

Decided that they could not

Join the Kappa society but that

The societies should hold their

Meetings together for two months.

Under this arrangement things went

Along smoothly and at the end of

That time the ties that bound

Them were so strong that neither

Could bear to think they ~~Lcked~~

“Lacked sand” they determined

To show their grit by going it alone

Once more. But once was enough

And at the close of theier first meeting

Adjurned “sene die” the young ladies

At a sad and solemn session decided

To disband and left as a monument over

The Athenian grave our organ. The

Following week the students meet and

From the ruins of these societies the

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Olympian was formed and has

Continued from that time to this

An honor, to its founders and to

its members, in it was combined

all that was good in both and it

stood without a rivil until the begin-

ning of the present term, it then

became apparent that another

 literary society was needed by the

students and this need was fully met

by the organization of the Philaletian

society the last but not least

of the societies that have been connected

with this institution, though younger

than its sister, the Olympian, yet ( in Many

respects it is not for behind her) and

the time is not far distant when “the

last shall be first, and the first, last”

long may these societies live in friendly

competition, to be an honor to our

university and a blessing its

students . a blessing to the nation