

## A SUGGESTION OR TWO.

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THE end of a year and the beginning of a year are usually regarded as good times for the making of resolutions—the end, because the mistakes of the past are so easily and clearly scanned—the beginning, because the person is full of energetic desire to make the best of dawning opportunities, and is anxious to fortify the will against possible temptation. Contrary to the usual plan, I have no resolutions to avow or promises to make for the future. I have thought rather, that, as we are now in a position to do better work as a college than ever before, I would take the occasion to suggest one or two ideas for the consideration of our professors and students. These may be thought over during the summer vacation, and be taken up and discussed when faculty and students assemble for the work of 1904-05.

The plan of student self-government has long been in my mind, but there has never before seemed a time when it was opportune to suggest it. It has occasionally been referred to in a casual way among members of the faculty and in my talks with individual students. I have an indistinct recollection that the subject was mentioned in a recent editorial note in the CAMPUS. While it is true that the faculty of an institution constitute the governing body in respect to its internal affairs, nevertheless, it has sometimes been found wise to delegate some of the powers of that body to another council. This council is composed in part of representatives of those who are more intimately interested in the regulations adopted for the government of the institution. It must be admitted that these movements are not always successful. It may be, however, that a plan can be devised whereby an experiment shall be made along this line, a plan which shall be satisfactory both to the advocates of a strictly paternal system of college government

on the one hand, and to those of the *laissez faire* system on the other.

Another matter that is coming to be worthy of our attention, is the privilege of wearing the university initial by students who have excelled in athletics. This practice has not yet been introduced among us, although it has been frequently referred to. We have a growing body of young men and young women who are making good records in base ball, foot ball, tennis, basket ball, track athletics, etc. The work of such students should be recognized by conferring upon them some sort of distinction which would be appropriate to that kind of excellence. It will be well for us to adopt some plan for awarding the privilege referred to, before any ambitious and enthusiastic, but well-meaning and loyal student puts on the "O" without realizing its significance.

I have chosen to make at this time these two suggestions, rather than to use the space allowed to me in glorifying our university and the deeds of her sons and daughters, in recounting the particulars of the crisis through which we have passed since our fire—particulars which have been given on other occasions, or in urging anew the importance of making the most of the opportunities here offered.

I trust that our students may all have an enjoyable and profitable vacation—profitable both financially and physically—and that they will return next year in fine condition for a better year than any of them have yet known. I trust also that the next year here may be one in which the guiding hand of the Father in heaven will be unusually apparent, and which will be full of spiritual as well as mental and physical inspiration and uplift to all who shall be members of our community.