

ments of old time, characterized by a somewhat Olympian aloofness from the more obvious currents of national activity and glorying somewhat superciliously at times in her devotion to the absolutely useless, it was a revelation to him of Academic possibilities undreamt of before, to find a University so thoroughly established as a factor in the ordinary commercial business of the man in the street, that the very bankers and railway magnates were seriously talking of instituting there departments of their own. In Queen's again he recognized the vigorous sapling of a noble stem, the continued life under these new skies of the best Scottish University traditions. He was quite right. Queen's has of late made extensive new departures, in the way of relating herself to national industries. She has entered on quite a considerable scale into the work of training engineers and miners. She has also justified her enterprise in this line by decided success in it. Her school of applied science is increasing in numbers and efficiency every year and has already attained to proportions more than respectable. But, gentlemen, I am sure that even the mining-engineers among you will at least bear with me when I say that the distinctive thing about her, and it is a good thing for you among others, that it should be so, the distinctive thing about her among the Universities of this country is still what it always has been, and what I hope it will always be, her steadfast maintenance and upholding amid all modern developments of the old Scottish ideal of an all-round liberal culture in which Literature, Science and Philosophy are harmoniously combined, and in

which the full-orbed glory of the complete University type is still exhibited by the retention of the Faculty of Theology as an integral part of the Institution. For my part I think we have no reason to regret the unexpected turn of events which has kept things so. Of course we are now again liable to the reproach of being a denominational college. I do not think that will hurt us. It is a mere *brutum fulmen*. We are no more denominational than the Scottish Universities, not so much so indeed. Other denominations show no shyness about availing themselves of the facilities which we offer. The Church with which we have the honour to be directly associated, which has assumed by solid pledges a very real working responsibility for our financial well-being, soon I hope to materialize in actual coin of the realm, the Presbyterian Church, is in general the least sectarian of denominations, the one which is pursuing her high functions in the most universal and truly national spirit, and in particular she shows not the slightest inclination to impose any paralyzing restrictions upon our perfect freedom to conduct the entire range of our affairs even in our Theological Faculty with a single eye to the furtherance of education and science. And even if we do lose something by being identified, or rather by having retained the liability to be identified in the minds of unthinking persons, or in the misrepresentations of those who do not like us with one particular religious body, our gain as it seems to me greatly outweighs such a loss. Better I think to have the old true blue Presbyterian colour, though in a sense even that is a limit, than to have no re-