

eration prepares to follow in their steps, one important cycle in the history of this institution is completed. It is with no sense of failure that we see University College merge anew into the institution from whence it sprung, and become a satellite in the university system of which for thirty-four years it has constituted the most essential member. It has numbered among its professors men whose memories are cherished with a just sense of their worth; and foremost among them the distinguished scholar—my predecessor in this chair—who has passed away in the fulness of his years since our last College Convocation; but whose influence survives in the enduring fruits of his aptitude as a teacher, and in the high standard which he determined for classical scholarship in Canada. So long as this college has been efficiently equipped it has fulfilled the duties entrusted to it. But its record is now closed as a faculty of arts. The Chancellor justly remarked in his last address to the University, while the details of the legislative measure which has since become law could only be surmised, that “the success of University College will depend on the strength of its staff.” This test of all academic possibilities—strength in numbers; still more, strength in intellectual capacity and teaching power—is indisputable, and tried by its standard, the thing now called University College, if standing alone, would fail. But for the actual work assigned to it ample power is assured, and when it receives the promised additions, including professors and lecturers in English and Latin, in Oriental languages and ancient history, it will take its place in the re-organized University; while with renewed hope we look down the long vista to be trodden by the footprints of younger generations, and anticipate for Ontario, and for Canada, the rich dawn of an ampler day.

The University of Toronto is identified in its inception with historical events of memorable significance. The loyal pioneers of Upper Canada who hero reared for themselves homes under the shelter of the British flag, had scarcely effected their first settlement on the northern shores of the great lakes when they gave evidence of their intellectual sympathies and wise foresight by efforts to secure some adequate provision for the education of their sons. No more creditable incident can be recalled in the early history of any country. It illustrates the character of the founders of Upper Canada as men of no ordinary type; differing indeed widely from the Puritan pilgrims of New England, but not unworthy to rank alongside of them as planters of another vigorous offshoot of the British oak. So long as their descendants worthily maintain the inheritance thus bequeathed to them, they will recall with pride the incident which presents its hardy pioneers while literally hewing out their first clearings in the forest, and displacing the Indian wigwam with the log hut of the farmer, thus anticipating the wants of later generations, and dedicating 500,000 acres of the uncleared wilderness to provide for the educational requirements of the infant State. To them, and not to the royal donor of its charter, this University owes the gratitude due to its founders. Nor have they missed their reward. The roll of its distinguished graduates already includes the names of men who have borne an honourable part as statesmen in critical times, who have taken the highest rank on the Bench and at the Bar; and have creditably filled responsible posts in academic, civic and commercial life. But we are even now in the gristle, and must be allowed to progress to a well-developed maturity. The acorn that some autumn gale of that elder century dropped in the solitude of the Canadian forest now