

the furtherance of an unrestricted system of higher education ; and for the encouragement of research in the departments of biology, physiology, and therapeutics.

The experience of the past year, invites our consideration of another wise custom in well-endowed Universities of the neighbouring States, of systematically freeing their professors from duty at stated intervals, in order that they may refresh their minds by renewed study ; and return from some favoured centre of learning, as Professor Ramsay Wright now does, to share with their students the most recent discoveries in science, or the latest phases of philosophic speculation and philological research.

We cannot overestimate the importance of thus keeping abreast of the achievements in science and letters. The latest triumphs in celestial physics have received special prominence at the recent meeting of the British Association. The establishment of telegraphic communication between the Old World and the New was welcomed as a practical contribution of science to the daily business of life. The actual interchange of conversation between the two continents by means of the telephone seems to be within reach. But the grander achievement of direct communication with remote suns and planets is being carried on, with ever increasing definiteness in the results. To spectrum analysis we owe the demonstration of an apparent unity in the constituent elements of the stellar universe ; while celestial photography in co-operation with the telescope charting and picturing the skies, brings back from remote space the material data to be subjected to the searching scrutiny of microscopic analysis. On the other hand celestial chemistry, by means of the spectroscope, is applying the phenomena exhibited in the combustion of remotest luminous stars to aid it in the determination of unknown elements of our own planet. Professor Rowland's anticipation of the discovery of new terrestreal elements by means of uninterpreted lines in the solar spectrum seems to be assured ; as indeed our knowledge of the spectrum of hydrogen in its complete form was thus derived. I know not how the materialist may interpret this fresh revelation of an all pervading unity. To me it seems as