

such as our Institute was founded to foster. When our Colleges, either by acquiring large endowments or by combining their small endowments, become able to allow their scientific Professors to devote themselves to special departments of Science, we may expect the golden age of the Institute of Natural Science to begin. Meantime we must look elsewhere for the most of our recruits.

There is one source from which we may hope that before long a considerable number of recruits may be drawn, and that is from the teachers of the schools and academies of the Province. From our point of view it is most hopeful that the necessity of introducing Science-teaching into the schools is being more and more clearly perceived by our teachers, and that they are making great efforts to acquire the knowledge that is necessary for its introduction. The Summer School of Science, which leading men among them have established, will not only assist them in preparation for their educational duties, but must in some cases produce an interest in scientific work which will lead to still greater results. The many will of course fit themselves merely to teach, but the few will fit themselves to investigate. And the public-spirited men who devote their vacations to assisting their colleagues to prepare for the more thorough discharge of their academic duties, may have the satisfaction before long of finding that some of the seed they have sown is springing up and bearing fruit worthy of being preserved in the Transactions of our Institute.

There seems, therefore, to be ground for hope that, by the aid of Teachers in our Colleges and Schools, and of laymen with leisure and taste for scientific work,—some of whom have been our main supporters in the past,—we may be able at present to maintain, and in future to increase, the activity of our Institute. Where there is interesting work to be done, we may have confidence that workers will not fail.

And that leads me to attempt to make a synopsis of the work which the Institute has to do, to ask how far we have been doing it, and to make some suggestions as to the best mode of doing those portions of it which seem hitherto to have been left undone.