

fortunes will encourage their successors. Do not forget that they who are willing to devote their time and energy in training for the usual competitions in the football arena are not looking for personal glory, but have at heart the honor of their Alma Mater.

If you wish to possess the trophy next fall, each student must be a footballer, and even if he lacks the stamina of a real participant in the contests, he can at least, by lending his support to the Association, contribute materially to the triumph which we feel sure will be yours.

In conclusion, citizens of Kingston, permit me on behalf of my colleagues to express the deep gratitude we feel at being able to consider ourselves rich in the priceless blessing of friends.

On such an occasion as this, when we would joy in our newly attained honors, a strain of sadness is introduced with the thought of leaving dear old Kingston, in which we have spent probably the happiest days of our existence. Our hours of study have been agreeably diversified by the social evenings spent in Kingston home circles, and nothing can ever blot the memory of the pleasant associations connected with our residence in your midst. Farewell! and may this simple expression of our heartfelt gratitude convey to you the regret we feel at leaving the scenes of our college life.

Gentlemen of the Faculty, farewell, and may you long be spared to continue your ennobling work, and when your labor on earth is ended, may the Great Physician of heaven welcome you and say—"Come in, come in; I was sick and ye visited me."

MR JOHN MILLAR'S VALEDICTORY.

Mr. Chancellor, Gentlemen of Convocation, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is rather difficult to determine what ought to be said and what left unsaid on such an occasion as the present. There are certain loose limits however, beyond which the nature of the case makes it useless to go. A valedictory would certainly be imperfect if it ignored the past, but it would be more imperfect if it did not include a consideration of present circumstances in their relation to the Alma Mater. In other words we must try, though never so hopelessly, to read the signs of the times, to see what the world needs and is searching for,—and then to point out how far our University has "kept the faith" and to consider thoughtfully how best she may do her part in the great work to be done. Of course this is a problem which I cannot pretend to solve in its fulness. All I can venture to do with any boldness is to point out the effect on the student, of a regular college course, such as Queen's affords, and to suggest from a student's point of view a few lines along which I think improvements can be made.

A few of us have been long looking forward to this day but now that it has come and brought its reward with it, if we know one thing more clearly than another, it is the fact of our own incompleteness. We have learned—at least I am sure some of us have—that we are not so wise as we once thought we were. At the end of four years we have found out that the shapes at which we looked so steadily are not "realities" at all, but only "shadows" and our old preconceptions have died hard.

This university draws a large number of her students from the teaching profession. Now I have great respect for the service to education which the public school teachers of this country are doing but on some of our weaker brethren I am afraid the profession has a most unfortunate effect, in the production of a dogmatic and self-assertive spirit. We who have engaged in this work for any length of time know the tendency there is to be satisfied with ourselves and it is the fatal satisfaction combined with false notions of what is "practical" in life that will go far to explain why the great body of teachers do not rise to a higher level of thought. To exchange his "noisy mansion" for the university in which he passes for a unit, and to toil like a common slave for wisdom must seem to the "village master" a rather humiliating piece of work. Of course there are other occupations and circumstances of life which tend to develop the same "conceit of knowledge without its reality." It is not necessary to follow a student thus burdened at the start through his college course. He may pass out of college much more the child of self than when he entered but if he is true to the "inner light" of his own conscience he will rise out of his bondage to a purer and fuller life.

But though a college course must be largely *negative* in its results, it cannot be *merely* so, for in all this destruction of the "old man" a new creature is in process of formation. With true negation of self there is bound up the assertion of self along new and higher lines of thought and action. If then the members of this year's class have passed through this transforming process—if we view things, in a measure at least, from a truer and more unselfish point of view, the labors of neither professors nor students have been altogether in vain.

To bring about a result of this kind is worth the effort of any university for it is the highest within its reach. It is a familiar thought in Greek philosophy but one which the world is slow to learn, that the end of all education is not to provide the student with a dead mass of information, but to set his face to a true ideal of knowledge and conduct. The present age needs men whose souls are "turned to the light" and whose eyes are set upon the good, men who through much "watching and sweating" have found the meaning of the past and are thus able to interpret without passion the unrest of the present. To our generation it has been given to work out many problems, political, social and religious.

We in Canada have a free national life to develop. The social condition of the working classes in almost every part of the world will sooner or later compel our most thoughtful attention.

The religious nature of man cannot be satisfied at a stroke by any council or creed and so as if to constitute a harmonious whole the truth of the infinite is demanding a higher interpretation than it has received in the past. The cry all over is "more life and fuller, *that we want.*" These questions, to adopt the language of a great thinker are pressing for settlement "at the Court of Courts where the universal soul of fact and very truth sits President; and thitherward more and more swiftly with a really terrible increase of swiftness all causes do in these days crowd around for revisal." Nature is giving us a riddle to solve