

had hoped to do, in the laying of the foundation stone of our new Convocation Hall to-morrow.

It is needless to say how hearty an interest I feel in anything that marks the success, progress and unity of our University. We are now on the right track: that of combining in one great provincial university the resources, once scattered over a number of local and denominational institutions. Correspondents of the papers are calling upon the university for the highest class of lecturing power. First-rate lecturing power is a commodity for which, as for other first-rate commodities, we must pay a first-rate price, and this we can do only by a combination of our resources. For my part I do not covet an unlimited increase in the number of students. The more intellectual callings may become overstocked, and you may then have ambition and sensibility without bread. At the same time the list of university studies has been made practical, perhaps to the full extent possible, without compromising the special function of a university as a place of the higher knowledge and training. For exceptional ability lowly-born a way to rise should, in the interest of society, always be made. All honest callings are equally respectable, and when pursued with industry and cheered by domestic affection may be equally happy. In a world vexed with political strife and wars or rumors of wars you are laying the foundation stone of a hall of peaceful progress. In a world much given over to the pursuit of gain you are paying homage to the culture which belongs to the higher nature of man. Where you now gather, generation after generation of professors and students will gather as the ages go on. In time, probably, with the progress of science and of society, they will differ from our generation as widely as our generation does from the professors and students of the middle ages. But the foundation stone laid to-day will remain unmoved, and so we hope and believe will the usefulness and honor of the University of Toronto.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) GOLDWIN SMITH.

His Honor tapped the block of granite three times, and said "I declare this stone to be well and truly laid." They had heard, he said, something of the difficulties that had been encountered. When they saw this building completed, he had no doubt the Government would see its way clear to render still further assistance to the University. It was quite erroneous to think that the demands of the University would ever be satisfied, the greater its classes the more it would require for its maintenance.

Hon. Mr. Harcourt, the Minister of Education, said that he