

its own way, but they recognize that indirectly it does pay the community that gives it a home. They feel it a duty which they owe themselves. Is not the university a party of their own life, and is not research a part of the university's life blood? They feel it a right, due to their own higher selves. It stimulates progress. Supported by the large-handed sympathy of the community and the local Government, it means quicker advance, both material and mental, it means invention, and it means medical discovery. And *qui facit per alium facit per se*, is a motto worthy of a State.

What, then, are finally the uses of these laboratories now opened by your University? They will assist in training men for various honourable callings, especially for that most ancient one of medicine. They will assist, no doubt, also to render life by practical applications of science superficially still more different from what it was only a short generation ago. They will assist to bring home and distribute to your community treasures of knowledge from all the quarters of the globe. They will assist—and it is a thought dear to a high-spirited people—themselves to add to the sum total the treasures of knowledge of the whole human race. “Noblesse oblige” appeals to chivalrous nations, as well as to chivalrous individuals.

But their highest office seems to me, perhaps, not even these high ones, but a more difficult still. Genius cannot by any community, however wealthy and powerful, be made to order. In biblical language, it is the gift of God. All a community can do toward obtaining it, be our riches and willingness a thousandfold what they are, is to ensure the rare and glorious plant a meed of freedom, light and warmth for blossoming upon our soil. Who can doubt that in this population here genius exists—not sown, it is true, broadcast, for nowhere is it thus—yet existent, scattered up and down? This it is for the community to foster, to discover.

By help of these finely built and finished laboratories this much in one direction can be done. The problem to which a wise country turns is the discovery less of things than of men. By these laboratories, adequately supported, your community can create opportunity for the exercise of powers which come from sources within itself, but are utterly beyond its power to produce at will. Their loftiest function is creation of this opportunity. For that aim the studies in them must be followed with no single narrow technical purpose, but must be wide of scope and full of access to every rank of students. So shall these laboratories prove a corner-stone for the upbuilding of a temple of knowledge, and a touch-stone for the best ore of intellect within the bounds of this great land.