

has the University College suffered from a want of funds for its efficient support, but many other things in connection with the University, notably the Library, have felt the evil effect of a scant endowment. At length the injury inflicted upon higher education, by not extending a liberal support to University College, has become so apparent, that the Senate has been moved from its wonted inertia, and we have a proposal, issuing from that venerable body, not only to add lecturers in Political Economy and Jurisprudence to the staff of the College, but also to furnish to the over-worked departments of Mathematics, Classics and Science assistance, in the shape of tutors holding fellowships. If I cannot congratulate the Senate on the wisdom of its proposals, I can at least give them the credit of good intentions. Let us examine these proposals. In the first place, it is proposed to pay \$800 per annum to lecturers in Political Economy and Jurisprudence. Now, what competent man can be secured for \$800 per annum? The evident intention, then, is to appoint lecturers from among the many talented and learned graduates frequenting Toronto and vicinity, and who, while fitting themselves for some other profession, give the remnant of their time to the task of instruction. This is no unlikely supposition; the history of University College is full of such events. Perhaps, however, men already fixed in their professions, and having a *penchant* for Politico-Economic questions, may be induced to open their stores of hidden wealth, and once or twice a week pour forth their treasures into the undergraduate mind. Whether right or wrong in my suppositions, there can be no doubt that it is intended to employ temporary lecturers, and not permanent professors. To any such scheme I strenuously object. University College has already suffered

more than enough from the employment of incompetent and half-educated tutors. It is needless to specify, but every graduate has in his mind an instance of one or more of these uncultivated, would-be professors. Probably no subject requires deeper and more accurate thought than Political Economy, and certainly no subject stands as much in need of a skilful expounder. If we consider the excited state of public feeling on questions of trade, it is increasingly important that the subject of Political Economy should be in the hands of a man at once able and judicious. Almost the same remarks are applicable to the subject of Jurisprudence, which, however, requires wider reading and deeper thought. Permanent professors, then, are required—men of wide reading; men accurate and profound in their thinking, and gifted with the power of clearly elucidating their subjects.

Closely connected with this is the proposal to establish fellowships. The spirit prompting this proposal cannot be too highly commended. Recognizing the need of a more perfect culture than the ordinary undergraduate course affords, the Senate desires to offer inducements to promising students to continue their studies after graduation. At the same time it is intended to utilize those holding fellowships, by employing them in the work of tuition in their respective departments of study. This scheme has much to recommend it: but two objections present themselves. One is that the resources of the University cannot at present bear it. An institution so poorly endowed as Toronto University cannot afford to spend money on fellowships. The second objection is, that in many cases the teaching of the fellows would be almost valueless. The reason is obvious to those acquainted with the gen-