

to be pioneers of a millennium of enlightened and regenerated working-men.

1. It is well known that London University was established chiefly with a view to extra-mural students. Candidates for a degree are to this day examined on the work of Pass and Honour courses without attendance upon classes, and it matters nothing to the university whether they have prepared at unchartered schools and colleges or at home. Seven years ago, Queen's resolved to try and better this example. We have in the Province of Ontario public schools, and above these about one hundred and twenty high schools, with twenty thousand pupils who had to pass an entrance examination before being admitted. Five or six thousand leave the high schools annually, of whom rather more than one thousand proceed to universities or professional colleges. This leaves a large number that may be supposed to have some taste and fitness for farther study but not the means of gratifying their taste. To this class of persons we not only offered permission to come up for the regular university examinations that lead to Degrees in Arts if they matriculated, but we also promised assistance by the professors or tutors attached to the different departments of study. For example, in English language and literature a correspondence class was formed, and in connection with it a special course of lectures given, the purpose being to suggest methods of analysis and criticism. This course was voluntary, and a corresponding tutor was appointed to communicate with extra-mural students who might wish to take it. A written copy of each lecture was sent to the student every fortnight, and an exercise prescribed which he had to write and forward to the tutor within the same period. In the other departments of study the weekly exercises of the class were sent to the extra-mural students, or they were required to make themselves familiar with prescribed text-books and to write essays in connection with these and send them in at fixed dates.

The results of this experiment have been all that we expected ; but we did not expect much. We knew the difficulties that this class of students would have to overcome. Some subjects,