

exist. The influence of the former had hitherto been exerted through the church, and just how much energy ecclesiasticism displayed in the eighteenth century is well enough known. The past hundred years have seen a mighty change, and some ground there certainly is for the formula, *post hoc propter hoc*. Further, it is mainly from the Union that stimulus has come into the score of clubs of all sorts in the colleges, whose aim is rather to supplement than to duplicate the work of the Union.

That work of this sort, if work it be, demands some time on the part of the student, is quite true, and this objection is certainly raised to such a scheme for Canadian universities. Oxford men can do the burden of their reading in vacations, whereas our men are forced to earn their living. This difficulty may be easily exaggerated. The most industrious men in any field of life have, as a rule, the most time for every useful diversion. Among those who have held the presidency at Oxford, I find the names of the greatest scholars of the day; men like Rawlinson, and Conington, and Professor Dicey, famous men of letters like Mr. Hilaire Belloc, and Sir E. T. Cook, and such an expert in education as Professor M. E. Sadler. The late Master of Balliol, who was librarian for three terms in 1865-6, was succeeded in office by the man who is now in his place as Master, Mr. J. L. Strachan-Davidson.

One may be permitted in closing this paper to express some anxiety as to the leadership of thought in city and province throughout Canada. Lord Morley, before the English Association a year ago, remarked upon the decline in eloquence of English prose. "Grand prose is not heard in debate, or in the pulpits, and hardly abounds in the exercises of the historian, critic, or biographer. It comes from supreme issues, earnest convictions, eager desire to convert or persuade, sublime events, passionate beliefs; these are what move to eloquence at its highest." Far too little care is bestowed to-day in our schools upon the composition of