

fully spoken "*Ladies First*" made us feel that instead of being simply tolerated we were recognized as a not very unwelcome element in their college life. For this and their many acts of kindness we thank them one and all, and wish them the greatest success in both life and profession.

VALEDICTORY FROM ARTS, 1893. READ BY R.
LAIRD.

Mr. Chancellor, Gentlemen of Convocation, Ladies and Gentlemen:—

To me has been assigned the duty of offering the farewell address for the graduating class in Arts.

For four years we have been devoting ourselves to the cultivation of our higher life in this centre of intellectual light, and as time sped on, our final goal has seemed to recede more rapidly. To-day, we reach, as it were, a halting place, but it gives us scarcely time to breathe, for we know that we are but on the threshold of life and the border-land of truth, and must pass on. When beginning our University course we little realized the power of the new current of life into which we had been drawn. THEN, we had faint conceptions of the momentous questions to be solved, but boldly set to work, under our learned professors, and longed in our boyish hopes for our graduating day to come. NOW, as we turn from our Arts course, where our inadequate ideas have been gradually vanishing and where our character has been undergoing a slow process of development, we cannot but feel keenly how incapable we are of grappling with the task of converting truth into life and life into truth.

It is not too much to say that a University graduate should be somewhat above the level of ordinary men. Those who have not had our opportunities will be eagerly expecting us to do something towards solving social and moral problems and to become living examples of the truth we have learned. Should not this be the case in a unique sense with those who graduate from Queen's with her exceptional advantages and freer spirit?

As we review our Alma Mater's past, we find that she has kept pace with the growing necessities of the times. During our course, several new Professorships have been established,

the number of students has been yearly increasing, the curriculum has been improved from time to time, the Carruthers' Science Hall has been erected and equipped, the Library has been improved and especially during the last session has been made more available to the students, on a few occasions Queen's has been generously remembered by friends in bequests and scholarships, and the year of Jubilee has come and gone with its rejoicing over the past and its brighter hopes for the future. These things give all true-hearted friends of Queen's unspeakable pleasure, but in themselves they do not constitute the strength of the University. This lies rather in the devoted loyalty of her professors, graduates, and students, and in the deep and growing earnestness that characterizes them in their work. There is one thing in Queen's that is peculiarly hopeful and merits special mention, viz:—the harmonious and friendly relations of professors and students and the deep interest that the former have in the welfare of the latter. And for true and permanent advance in scholarship, this is an undoubted essential. While these advances are worthy of our highest commendation and call forth our best efforts, we feel that they are but indications of a wider sphere of influence which Queen's will in the future exert, and we look forward to a richer heritage and more glorious prosperity for our successors within these college walls. The question now to be considered is, what has been the effect on us of the course, and what more is required of us?

If our University has given us higher ideas of life and has indicated the approach to fields of learning yet untouched by us, *then* her labor has not been in vain. We have been brought into touch with true culture, with men of mature minds and with the freshness that comes from original research, and we have seen the necessity of getting rid of selfishness, insincerity and all that is not in harmony with true manliness. But while being stripped of many of our old conceptions and while finding out that our supposed knowledge was in reality meagre and fragmentary, we feel that we have been slowly winning our way to a higher plane of thought and life. We have found out that we cannot accomplish everything in a college course, nor in a lifetime, and that failure and