

money and space to spare after fulfilling its main purposes: but not otherwise. Nor is it part of its duty to maintain what is pretentiously called a Library School. Apart from the value of the instruction given in such institutions, they are likely to absorb money, and certain to occupy space, that might be much more profitable employed.

At the same time, we do not agree with those who think that a University Library should keep every student constantly supplied with whatever books he needs, or with those who urge that it should offer reading-room accommodation sufficient for all students simultaneously. One frequently hears that the Redpath Library should possess a larger stock of "reference-books". With reference books in the proper sense of the term - encyclopaedias, year-books, atlases, and such like - it seems to be reasonably well supplied, though the works in question are not always as accessible to readers as they should be. The term "reference-book", however, is commonly misapplied to text-books. We should strongly deprecate the spending of money on the purchase of numerous copies of a single text-book. It should be impressed on every student that it is his duty to provide himself with the tools necessary for his work. In most courses at the University some indispensable text-book is named; and this, at least, should be purchased by every student concerned. Very many students are stubbornly reluctant to buy books, assuming it to be the duty of the University to furnish them with all the instruction they require, oral and written, a belief in which they are sometimes encouraged by their instructors. This attitude is rarely justified by genuine poverty. Most students will spend on amusements during the session many times the sum needed to purchase the text-books essential to the success of their work. Furthermore, rich students are no less remiss than others in this respect. The members of certain fashionable fraternities, we understand, make it a point of honour to buy no books relating to their studies.

Again, to many students academic work is something to be done on the University premises and nowhere else. A great deal of space in the reading-