

the end of the year when we scatter throughout the province, we will carry with us pleasant memories and glowing reports of the friendship of the people of Hamilton.

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THREE months ago upon the occasion of the opening of the beautiful structure wherein is situated the Normal College, there came to Hamilton students from all quarters of the Province, in most cases entire strangers to each other—a heterogeneous company of human souls, panting for the intellectual passport to lead them into the world of thought and action where each man and woman of us has his or her particular duty to perform in shaping the course of the world's history. In this connection the lines of James Russell Lowell will appropriately stand serious and thoughtful perusal :

"No man is born into the world, whose
work
Is not born with him : there is always
work,
And tools to work withal, for those who
will;
And blessed are the horny hands of toil !
The busy world shoves angrily aside,
The man who stands with arms akimbo set,
Until occasion tells him what to do ;
And he who waits, to have his task marked
out
Shall die and leave his errand unfulfilled.
Our time is one that calls for earnest
deeds."

Thus the great problem that confronts us all most particularly at the present time is to find out that sphere of life where each of us can to the greatest advantage show forth the true manhood with which our Creator has endowed us. Life is manifestly a serious question, and more so is it the case with the men and women who are being trained in the Normal College with a view to instil into the young those principles which go to create good manhood and woman-

hood, for on them to no small degree depends the future of nations morally and intellectually. Then let us nobly acquit us for the work we shall be called upon to do in whatever position we shall be placed, whether it be in the school room or in the more public affairs among men.

With the commencement of the term we were a vague whole and unknown to each other except in a few instances. But man above all creatures is eminently a social being, desiring converse with his fellows, and thus, before we had sat many hours in the now familiar amphitheatre, listening to the inspiring thoughts of our esteemed principal, Dr. McLellan, all began a practical illustration of the discriminating analytic process which we were soon to learn was one of the essential and fundamental steps in the process of education and, as the days glided by, this process continued till instead of being isolated human beings with scarcely any interests in common, there soon began the combining and synthetic process, welding the indefinite whole into a homogeneous unity—one in thought, action and sympathy.

But there is one small and stalwart band to whom our thought and sympathy go out upon this occasion. They are the so-called "December Men," who are to go up against the Philistines, and for each man and woman of them deep down in our hearts we entertain a fellow feeling that they may come out of the fray successful and receive the crown of the victors which shall admit them to the serious conflict of life in the Educational arena.

It is the sincere desire of the students of the Ontario Normal College,