

college education, they would have accomplished more, and with much greater ease, had they been blessed with all the advantages which you will here receive. The education of men who have distinguished themselves in any way without university training has been laboriously and in most cases imperfectly obtained through private study; and as exercise invariably strengthens the faculties whether physical or mental, the very obstacles which they have overcome have been of service to them in obtaining any degree of cultivation that they may have reached. But, if you ask such men, they will tell you that their path to success would have been infinitely easier, and that they would in all probability have occupied a much larger sphere of usefulness to mankind, if circumstances had favored them as they are now favoring you.

Here you come under the influence of a grateful intellectual atmosphere. Your training is committed to professors with broad views, sound faith, and moral power of the highest order. They will earnestly labor to make you wiser and better. They will inspire you with the love of truth and imbue your minds with noble thoughts, loyal sentiments, and patriotic aspirations. You may well appreciate your high privileges and the prospects that are open to you.

The graduates and alumni have been good enough to place me on the highest pinnacle of the University, and no person could be more deeply sensible of the honor and dignity of the office than I am; yet, if it were possible, I would willingly exchange it for yours. I trust that you will believe that I would gladly give up the exalted position of Chancellor to take that of the youngest beardless freshman among you, with youth and health and hope on his side, and all the world before him.

An institution like this is a point where the learning of the philosophers of all ages and of all countries is brought into a focus, for the student to receive the golden rays of knowledge. The professors are here to guide and direct, so that the light may shine on each individual mind. They will be animated by the desire to promote enquiry, to prompt investigation, to train and expand the mental faculties; but much must be done by the student himself. His powers can only be developed by practice, and their growth depends to a very large extent on the exercise which he gives them. Self-exertion is the grand instrument by which culture can be effected, and there can be no progress made without it. To discipline and to train are the work of the professor; application and self-exertion are the work of the student, and these are absolutely essential if any benefit is to be derived from attendance at College.

Let me advise you, students, not to throw away nor neglect your grand opportunities. Do not trifle with your precious college days. You may not all win prizes or attract attention at examinations. The race is not always to the swift. Do not be discouraged if your morning star does not shine brightly. The shining may come later on in the day. Bring to bear on your work earnestness of purpose, self-reliance, perseverance, sobriety of speech and of behaviour, and you will be certain to vanquish every difficulty. Be determined to spend your college days to some purpose, and you will surely carry with you into the world treasures which no thief can steal, and a fortune which no adversity can take from you. You will be the indisputable owner of stores of thought and of happiness for all the days of your life. You will be the possessor of a trained and cultivated intellect, ready to do honour to the highest or the humblest calling, and be able to leave your race and the world better than you found them.

I trust and believe that Queen's University will, year by year, furnish its full share of educated men for all the varieties of occupation to be found in a new country, whether on the farm or in the forum, in the pulpit or the

press. I am encouraged to hope that the graduates of Queen's, possibly some of those young men who now hear me, will, in after years, distinguish themselves in various ways, perhaps in the well-trodden walks of literature or in some undiscovered paths of science, in the fields of commerce or of industry, on the Bench or at the Bar, or in that noble profession which will be open as long as we have disease, or in that still nobler profession which will be open as long as we have sin.

It may be that succeeding generations may be able to point to the names of illustrious sons of Queen's in the biographies of statesmen and of poets, of patriots and of philosophers, and their renown may, in course of time, make this new hall historic. The fair fame of this University must, however, depend on the students who shall annually assemble within these walls, and mainly on their determination to become learned and wise men. They must bear in mind that there is no royal road to learning; that there is but one pathway to thorough knowledge, that of labor and toil. A modern philosopher says that "a certain quantity of work is necessary to produce a certain quantity of any kind of good whatever. If you want food you must toil for it; if pleasure you must toil for it; and if knowledge you must toil for it." An ancient wise king tells us that "Wisdom is the principal thing, therefore get wisdom." A living and gifted statesman, recently our Sovereign's Prime Minister, says, "Knowledge is like the mystic ladder in the Patriarch's dreams, and great authors who have held the chain of science and philosophy, of poesy and erudition, are the angels ascending and descending the sacred scale and maintaining, as it were, the communication between man and Heaven."

AN OFFERING OF SONG.

(Dedicated to the Very Principal and the new Chancellor.)

Lay down the trowel, the hammer and rule,
Rest the workman and cease the tool,
For, fair as an embodied dream,
The stately walls in the moonlight gleam,
Or, touched by the liquid golden light
Of the warm October sun,
They seem to smile on our gladdened sight,
As we heartily say 'Well done!'

Fair and noble, yet not alone
In the outward beauty of form and stone,
They are touched by a radiance more softly bright
Than ever shone from earthly light—
The quenchless light of a noble past
That can never fade or die,
For—long as the soul itself—shall last
That light in the purer sky.

Not alone the good right hand
Of workman and master wrought and planned,
Things more precious than marble and gold
To our inner vision its walls enfold,
Earnest purpose and noble thought
Struggle and toil of the sainted dead,
In living stones its walls are wrought
And its sure foundation laid.

Child of a thousand hopes and fears,
Linking the present with by past years,
A noble heritage, nobly won
'Mid darkness and pain in days by-gone,
May her future be bright as the autumn light
That shines on her walls to-day,
Darkness of sorrow and clouds of night