

velopment. Anything that comes by evolution is likely to be the right thing at the right time. One or two of our Ottawa graduates, who had obtained their degrees through extramural study, valued the education they had received so much that they resolved last summer to form classes on University Extension lines in their own city, the capital of the Dominion, and when they appealed to us for our co-operation we readily consented, and met them more than half-way. So far as I know this is the first case in which a Canadian university undertook to send its professors and tutors outside of its own seat, to do anything like regular university work; though recently the University of New Brunswick, whose seat is in Fredericton, has decided to open courses in St. John, and has published a scheme of lectures in ten different subjects. It has also enlisted in support of the undertaking the best local talent, and the very large number of earnest, intellectual people in St. John is a guarantee of success. Most of the lecturers have no direct communication with the university. The university has, I think, acted wisely in securing the support of outsiders as teachers, and we shall doubtless before long follow this good example.

What measure of success is likely to attend our venture I shall not attempt to predict, but in my opinion the great danger to be avoided here and elsewhere is that which was referred to at the outset of this article. People are so apt to judge of success by mechanical standards that the friends of the movement may offer inducements to attract numbers. Now numbers are just what must be avoided at the first, if anything is to be attempted. I happened, quite unexpectedly, to be in Ottawa on the day when the first lecture of the first course was to be given, and learned to my dismay that it was to be in the

city hall, that the chancellor of the university, Mr. Sandford Fleming, was to be in the chair, and that his Excellency the Governor-General, and other brilliant people whose countenance is sought when it is desired to make anything fashionable, were to be present. Knowing that Professor Cappon, who was to give the inaugural lecture, sympathized with my own conviction that the movement is likely to end in smoke unless real educational work is attempted, and that such work cannot be done at a public meeting where three-fourths of the people expect to be easily interested and perhaps amused, I was curious to know how he would meet his audience. He proved himself equal to the occasion, and his introductory remarks were so much to the point that they are well worthy of a still larger audience. After courteously acknowledging the presence of Lord Stanley and the distinguished patronage under which the lectures were to be given, he proceeded somewhat as follows:

"But I must tell you frankly that the very public and formal nature of this meeting embarrasses me considerably. I came here to night prepared to meet a class which I could treat on the easy, familiar, confidential terms in which a university tutor discourses of his subject to a limited and specially prepared audience. In the words of your secretary, Mr. Cowley, I was to give such a lecture as I should give were I commencing work with a class in college. Accordingly, I have come before you to night without any special preparation for such a meeting as this. The lecture I have brought with me was specially written and designed for an academic audience, that is, an audience prepared to go into a perhaps somewhat dry and scientific analysis of the subject, an audience prepared for the serene delights of research