

Even the small, rugged, and poor Republic of Switzerland, with only about half the population of Canada, has at least three universities—one among the most famous in Europe, with 88 professors, another with a library of 200,000 volumes, besides numerous technical and scientific schools. Sweden, still poorer, with a population about that of Ontario, has two universities, with 163 professors, 2,000 students, and very large and valuable libraries. Little Denmark has its university, with 2,000 students and library of 200,000 volumes. Even Portugal has its university, with eighty-eight professors and tutors and 1,500 students. Germany, besides her splendid system of gymnasia, has no less than twenty universities, with over 1,700 professors and teachers. Italy has seventeen, with 805 professors and teachers. Even the subarctic province of Finland has its well-manned university, some of whose professors at least have won world-wide fame.

We, too, in Canada, if we have but patriotic faith in its possibilities, may help to build up a high-class university which shall reflect lustre upon our country. We prefer to follow in this matter the guidance of Dr. Burwash, who for eight and twenty years has been a student, professor, dean or president, of Victoria University, who has been a post-graduate student at Yale, who has made university problems a life-study, whose heart throbs with undying love for the institution so identified with his existence, who is entrusted by the Church with the administration of its educational policy, who does not despair of his country, but cherishes high hopes of its becoming in the near future intellectually and educationally the peer of any country under heaven.

Above all, let us not disparage and minify what Canadians have done and are doing. We think that Mr. Allen speaks without full knowledge of the facts when he says that Canadian universities are so inferior to certain much-vaunted American ones, and are, therefore, incapable of doing original work. The honour-work of Toronto University in many of its

departments will compare favourably with that of any university in America. Moreover a considerable number of its brilliant graduates are now doing high class post-graduate work. Its biological and scientific departments are rapidly developing in strength and breadth, and are furnishing ample opportunity for original investigation.

In another important department, that of classical and Christian epigraphy, Toronto University had before the late fire the best equipped apparatus on this continent; and in its late President, Dr. McCaul, had an expert in that difficult science not equalled on this continent and not surpassed in any university in the world. In ethnology and its kindred sciences, its present distinguished head, Sir Daniel Wilson, has a world-wide reputation; and in Sir W. J. Dawson, the sister university of McGill College has an original investigator of commanding influence. It is well known also that in the laboratory of Victoria University its late accomplished Professor Haanel made important original investigations and discoveries, and was well able to direct original work. The same is true, we think, of his accomplished successor, Professor Coleman. The same was certainly true of the late Professor Croft, and we presume is also true of his successor of Toronto University.

If we are as a young nation to claim our place in the republic of letters, it will not be by disparaging and belittling what we have done or what we may do. Neither will it be by isolating Victoria College from the higher educational system of the country and prescribing to universities in the country the petty rôle of being merely "preparatory schools" to American universities. But it will be by the Canadian universities combining their resources, uniting their efforts, burying their old-time jealousies and antagonisms, and being resolved to give the Province of Ontario such a university that her sons will not be obliged to take a post-graduate course at any American university.

Mr. Allen justly condemns in