

is dealt at bigotry and at those who trust to it for political advancement, for we are assured that Mr. Harty's religion was made a prominent point by injudicious friends of the defeated candidate. Another moral seems plainly to be that the political demagogue cannot bully with impunity those whom the public recognizes to be infinitely more patriotic and disinterested than himself. The vulgar abuse so liberally bestowed by the member of the Commons for Kingston no doubt helped to make the majority what it was. Finally we may interpret the contest as showing that the party organization cannot be counted on absolutely to return a man whose qualifications are mainly fidelity to party.

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The complaint has frequently been heard that our Universities are "not centres of thought but centres of study." It ought not to be so but it will probably be admitted that it is to a great extent. One cause of this—for which the individual students are responsible—has been pretty thoroughly discussed in this volume of the *JOURNAL* by C. F. H. We would like now to draw attention to the other side. May not the character of our Universities be in some measure responsible also?

The object of a university course is to give men and women education and culture. With this aim, it must necessarily demand of all students a more or less thorough study of certain subjects. This means a considerable amount of hard, earnest work, which is therefore unavoidable, though it need not degenerate into cramming; it is the student's fault if it does. This, however, gives but a one-sided education. The other side must be obtained from newspapers and books and especially from contact with educated persons, and can be obtained only by those who seek it. The complaint we mentioned at the start implies that a Canadian University does not afford much opportunity for this second part of education, and we think this is largely due to the absence of post-graduate students. Men come to college not to get an education but to take a four years course; even when they are young and able to spend five or six years as easily as four, the majority do not think of it; when they have been four years at college they must leave if only to take a year's rest. This may

be thought nonsense, but it is a fact that the idea is very prevalent and does a great deal of harm. A large number of post-graduate students would destroy it. They would also invigorate all college societies and make it possible to have successful literary and scientific associations, and in many other ways would directly and indirectly benefit the undergraduates. If our universities are ever to become centres of thought, they must keep their graduates about them for some time beyond an ordinary course.

Now there are two essentials to successful post-graduate study: first, courses of study; second, students to take them. The large majority of graduates who would profit most by an extra year or two cannot afford to spend the time. On the other hand the Professors in most departments are already overworked and could not give much assistance to higher students. The establishment of a sufficient number of fellowships would tend to remove both of these difficulties and we earnestly hope that the finances of the university will soon permit it. In the meantime it is well to recognize the need. And we may derive encouragement from the existence of half-a-dozen tutorships and from the fact that in spite of these difficulties so many do take an extra year or two.

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FOOTHOLDS FOR FAITH'S FEET. Illustrative lectures by Rev. W. H. W. Boyle, B.A., Toronto: Wm. Briggs. Price, 50 cents.

It gives us much pleasure to introduce to the readers of the *JOURNAL* this delightful little volume by one of our graduates. It contains a series of six lectures upon six of the great contributions to modern hymnology. By illustrative incidents, by the explication of their teaching, and by shewing their relation to the lives of their authors, the writer has endeavoured to render possible a more intelligent use in the service of praise of the great hymns with which he deals. The volume is written in a fresh and interesting style, and in an earnest fervent tone. Though the author by severe affliction has for a time been laid aside from the active duties of the ministry, yet it is our sincere hope that his helpful words may reach and strengthen many. The volume has already gone through its first edition and has nearly completed its second.