

money had confederation taken place. That is a mistake. Confederation is generally a costly business. In the event of confederation we would have required, first, a quarter of a million to move, and perhaps a second quarter for extension, for no one pretended that confederation meant the extinction of any teaching, and it is teaching that costs. Why, the experience of the Baptists proves that even when they bring to one college all their divinity professors, they do not save money. Quite the contrary. Their divinity teaching costs now three times as much as under the old system; but, fortunately for them, they have a man who gives more for their one theological hall than our whole Church is asked to give for Knox, Montreal and the theological department of Queen's. Besides, under the present system, we reach a wider constituency of givers than we could possibly appeal to if confederation took place. Do you think that the people of Eastern Ontario would contribute to Queen's as they now do if it was uprooted and carried away to

Toronto in spite of their protests, and when its steady growth proved that removal was not required in its own interest? Already there is a somewhat bitter feeling in other cities that there are men who would centralize every institution in Toronto. That feeling would be intensified if university confederation took place without any guarantee of success or improvement. In those circumstances we would certainly lose sources of revenue that we now depend upon. Under any system, depend upon it, money will be needed. But under the present system no money is wasted on rash experiments, and appeal is made to the widest possible circle of friends of higher education.

Again, let me congratulate you on the action you have taken. You can appeal to men and women of every denomination, for your revenue is to be applied to the general work of the university and not to the theological department. May you report hundreds of members at the annual meeting in April next.

THE STUDY OF LITERATURE.*

BY PROF. JOHN WATSON, QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY.

[Revised for *THE EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY*.]

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

I REGARD devotion to intellectual pursuits as not only a great preservative against the vulgar, the mean and the impure; not only do I think that the man who dwells with the great minds of the past and the present is likely to be a better member of the family, the city and the state, but I believe that in being

these things he will also be a better Christian. Hence, I rejoice at the banding together of young minds, as yet unworn by the world, and eager to know the best that has been said and done by our race; and I trust that you will be able to preserve, and even to intensify, the enthusiasm with which you have begun so good a work. You have started on a path that leads to a fair and fruitful domain. But I must remind you that, although the beginning is much,

*An address read at the inauguration of the St. Andrew's Literary Society of Kingston, 18th Dec. 1885.