

impressive ceremonial laid the foundation stone which, during the past year, has been so unceremoniously displaced.

In view of past proceedings thus recalled to notice, and the actual saving to the whole Province arising from the appropriation of the old University site, it cannot be deemed an unreasonable proposal that the Legislature shall give practical effect to their late statute by endowing at least two of the new chairs, therein declared to be indispensable for the efficient organization of the University.

This plea is urged not only on grounds of equity, but in the interests of higher education for the whole Province. The principle which underlies the idea of University federation will yet, I trust, assert itself in all the amplitude of a generous sympathy with whatever tends to promote true learning in any intellectual centre. It is a narrow spirit of rivalry that induces some friends of denominational colleges to resent the provision of adequate equipment for the Provincial University. No one can impartially review the successive steps by which it has systematically revised its courses; and once and again elevated its whole standard, so as to avail itself of every improvement in the High Schools of the Province,—due in no inconsiderable degree to the men trained by itself to fill their masterships;—and at the same time note the extent to which its example has influenced other institutions of learning far beyond the limits of Ontario: without recognising that the interests of higher education in Canada are largely identified with its prosperity. It cannot be too strongly insisted on that the success of national education is the measure and standard of a people's healthful progress. The nations of the world take rank according to their fidelity to it; and their greatness, alike in ancient and modern times, has been in proportion to the zeal with which they have fostered intellectual culture, and made truth their highest aim.

Looking at this question of national education as it is affected by University federation, I entertain sanguine hopes of the