

I think we are entering under able and skilful commanders, but still, much remains to be accomplished, and that cannot be done without ready and willing soldiers. We need not expect the walls of ignorance or prejudice to crumble at our feet, merely because we may think it proper to sound our own praise. Each artizan, as he has been taught his work, must persuade others to apprentice themselves, and he should induce as many as he can to go and do likewise. The number of students who are leaving this year is 18, and the number of matriculants is 75; so that we have proof of the increase of our strength. In this utilitarian age, I have myself heard many say and declare that there was no use in putting our youth to study the dead languages and polite literature—that it was wasting their time needlessly, and that it would be much better that young men should be taught some of the useful (in their sense of the word) employments or pursuits of the day, and then they would be ready to be sent forth to the world as useful members of society. To such persons, I would say they entirely forget and overlook the fact that it is the thorough education, teaching us the knowledge of the past ages of the world, in literature, in science, in art—in fact, in everything, from the rocks upon the mountains to the bowels of the earth and the depths of sea, which enables us to appreciate and improve upon what we see around us at present, and from such knowledge, to hit upon inventions which may prove useful to a future generation. The literature of Greece and Rome is the common ground upon which all the polite nations of the world can unite, however varied their climate, their language, their distance from each other, and their interests as conflicting with each other as may be; and it is from this source each nation adopts the authors of poetry, history, and eloquence, as models from which to study and improve the literature of its own. The works of Aristotle and Cicero have probably furnished more materials for instruction upon the topics upon which they treat than any other authors either before or since their times. Those great men wrote not for their own times or for their own country, but for the world—for all posterity. Sallust shows us what he thought of his production when he composed the account of Catiline's conspiracy and insurrection. He says—"Mihi rectius esse videtur, ingenii, quam virum opibus, gloriam querere, et quoniam vita ipsa, qua fruimur, brevis est, memoriam nostri, quam maxime longam efficere, Nam divitiarum et formæ gloria fluxa atque fragilis; virtus clara æternaque habitur." The study of ancient literature lays the foundation upon which to proceed with the structure, and the structure is completed by the information to be derived from modern literature. The historian of the "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," says—"It was among the ruins of the capitol that I first conceived the idea of a work which has amused and exercised nearly twenty years of my life, and which, however inadequate to my own wishes, I finally deliver to the curiosity and candor of the public." Who supposes, coming to the moderns, any more than among the ancients, that the great authors of Italy, France, Germany, or England, wrote solely for their own times or their own country? "My name and memory," (was the affecting and melancholy language of Lord Bacon in his last will,) "My name and memory I leave to foreign nations, and to mine own countrymen, after some time be passed over." The same rule prevails in scientific and all other pursuits, as in literature—there is no royal road to learning. The foundation must be laid upon which to erect the building. Time does not permit me to do more than cursorily hint at these things—and, after all, that is all, in truth, which is necessary. If I can succeed so far as to cause the mind to be turned upon the subject, I am convinced that reflection will produce conviction of the truth of the observation. The utility and advantages of University education may be summed up in these words of Lord Bacon:—"Studies serve for delight, for ornament, and for ability. Their chief use for delight is in privateness and retiring; for ornament, is in discourse; and for ability, is in the judgment and disposition of business." *Felix qui potuit rerum cognoscere causas.* Before we part let me say a few words more particularly to those who have just left us and those who are now pursuing their studies here, and those who may contemplate doing so. I ask them to look upon these annual meetings as so many spurs to urge them on, to vie with each other in the course of study which enables them to earn the honors and distinctions we are able to bestow. They will find not only a present gratification and amusement to themselves, but will derive such permanent knowledge as will enable them to confer advantages upon others, and indeed fit them for all the relations of life afterwards. I have spent all my life since I left school in the study and practice of the legal profession, and if I am more familiar with that than any other, I trust I shall be forgiven in drawing upon it to illustrate my meaning in the way of advice. I would apply to all—not merely those engaged in legal studies, but studies of every kind—what Lord Bacon says in his preface to "Maxims of the Law." "I hold," he says, "every man a debtor to his profession, from the which, as men of course do seek and receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to

endeavor themselves by way of amends, to be a help and ornament thereunto. This is performed in some degree by the honest and liberal practice of a profession, when men shall carry a respect not to descend into any course that is corrupt and unworthy thereof, and preserve themselves free from the abuses wherewith the same profession is noted to be infected; but much more is this performed if a man be able to visit and strengthen the roots and foundation of the science itself, thereby not only gracing it in reputation and dignity, but also amplifying it in profusion and abundance." To those young men who remain here pursuing their studies I would particularly recommend the example of Plowden, who tells us in the preface to his "Commentaries" as follows: "When I first entered," he says, "upon the study of the law, which was in the twentieth year of my age, and in the thirtieth year of the reign of the late King Henry the Eighth, of famous memory, I resolved upon two things, which I then purposed earnestly to perform. The first was to be present at, and to give diligent attention to, the debates of the questions of law, and particularly to the arguments of those who were men of the greatest note and reputation for learning. The second was to commit to writing what I heard, and the judgment thereupon, which seemed to me much better than to rely upon treacherous memory, which often deceives its master. These two resolutions I pursued effectually by a constant attendance at moots and lectures, and at all places in Court and Chancery, to which I might have access, where matters of law were argued and debated." Youth may ask, as I have heard, "What are all these studies for?" Is it not, I would answer in return, the search after wisdom? Surely it must be so, or it certainly ought to be so. The wisdom which informs each of us individually, and which when possessed enables us to instruct the rest of our race. Does any one fancy for a moment that it will ever be acquired to the extent wisdom can go by the study of all the past ages of the world, or all that the present can afford? The subject is exhaustless, and those who are entering upon the study will find quite as much room for them as there ever was, and quite as many things to be discovered as have already been made known. The son of Sirach, more than two thousand years ago, said: "The first man knew her not perfectly; no more shall the last find her out. For her thoughts are more than the sea, and her counsels profounder than the great deep." When time shall have rolled on its courses let us hope that some at least of the sons of this institution may exclaim, as the son of Sirach has done—"I will yet make doctrine to shine as the morning, and will send forth her light afar off. I will yet pour doctrine as prophecy, and leave it to all ages forever. Behold that I have not labored for myself only, but for all them that seek wisdom."

The GOVERNOR GENERAL (Visitor of the University) then rose amidst loud cheering and said: That after what had passed to-day, after what has been said by the President of the University College, and by the Chancellor of the University, he had but a very few remarks to make. He merely wished, before taking leave of them, to say, it had been the source of the greatest gratification to him to assist at this inauguration, if he might so say, of this noble building. (Cheers.) They had been shown that days of trouble and anxiety in connection with it had existed in the past; but he would utter the hope that these days might not return,—(applause); but that as the number of their matriculants increased, the institution would, long after he had left Toronto, go on increasing in its efficiency and in its means of imparting instruction. (Cheers.) He would say again, that this meeting was the source of the greatest gratification to him. He had seen the beginning of the building, and he had now the pleasure of being present at its inauguration. (Cheers.) [In replying to a toast at the annual University Dinner, in the evening, His Excellency further remarked, that he had taken great interest in the progress of the university building, and he rejoiced that he had been present to-day at the first convocation in its halls. (Applause.) He had now to thank them for the warm way in which they had drunk his health, although he must say that his exertions on behalf of the university had been much over-rated. His services in connection with the growth of the present building, and generally of the university, had been greatly exaggerated. In doing what he had done for the university he had done no more than his duty, in watching as well as he could over the progress of an institution which he thought would be of advantage to the whole Province. (Applause.) But there was one point on which there could be no exaggeration, and that was his estimate of the importance of the institution to this country. He did not measure its importance by its present condition, prosperous as that condition was compared with what it formerly had been. The fact was the importance of the institution to Canada was far greater than at this moment would be conceived. (Cheers.) He looked upon this country as containing the germ seed of a great people (cheers,) and he thought there was no man in Canada who did not look forward to the progress of Canada until such time as it assumed a national character of its own, and a place among the peoples