

intellectual and moral culture. Secondly, there are important considerations, both physiological and mental, which render it inexpedient that women should compete with men in the hard and rough struggle of college life as at present constituted, and experience shows that in the education of women the ruder and stronger stimuli applied to young men are not needed. Thirdly, there are practical inconveniences and dangers attending the education of young men and women in the same classes, especially when they belong, as is inevitable in this country, to very different social grades. Fourthly, in the United States, where the condition of society is not very dissimilar from our own, both methods are being tried on a somewhat large scale, and the verdict of public opinion seems to be in favor of colleges where a special and distinct education is provided for women alone.

While stating these reasons, I must admit that the only experiment in co-education which we have carried on, that of the McGill Normal School, has for more than twenty years been conducted with entire success. But there the conditions are peculiar. It is a professional school attended by pupils animated by an earnest desire to qualify themselves for a useful and honorable vocation, and the women are largely in the majority, so that it is rather a question of the education of a few young men in a college for women.

In one or other of these ways, however, the higher education of women is now provided for in most civilised countries. At the recent meeting of the Association of Protestant teachers of this Province, Rev. Canon Norman directed attention to this, in an elaborate paper, and showed that in Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Holland, Denmark and Sweden, women are admitted to the Universities. New Zealand, Australia and India have, it seems, taken the lead of other dependencies of the British Empire in this matter. In England itself, Cambridge and Oxford have colleges and halls where women are trained for their examinations. The University of London has opened its examinations to women, and they are admitted to the classes in University College and other colleges affiliated to the University.

There can be little doubt that in this branch of education Canada as yet lags somewhat behind, and it has, I confess, been a matter of humiliation to myself that we have hitherto been able to do so little toward giving our country a higher place. In this