

Rome with a series of irksome tasks, and heartily wishes that the whole of its literature had shared the fate of the lost manuscripts of Virgil. No doubt the student who has taken an honor course in classics is beyond this elementary stage, but even he is just beginning to feel that he is fit for some bit of independent work of his own when the pressure of necessity calls him imperiously away to do something that he can turn into a means of subsistence. The only wonder is that so many of our students have the courage to carry their studies beyond the point that usage has fixed. That of recent years an increasing number of our young men do so is a most hopeful sign; and it is the plain duty of the university to encourage them by all means in her power. This is the class from which we may yet hope to obtain a body of Canadian scholars fit to be named along with the foremost scholars of Germany and England and the United States. We must in our universities make a serious attempt to supply the needs of all classes of students. We must try to lift to a higher level the whole of the work that is done in them. The standard of matriculation should be higher in quality, and a course of post-graduate work should crown our honor courses. To secure the first measure of reform will not be easy. Little can be done by any single university, and certainly very little by a university such as ours that cannot hope to determine the character of the work done in our high schools. I venture, however, to make one suggestion, although past experience makes it very doubtful if any heed will be paid to it. Let us have a meeting of representatives, if not of all our Canadian universities, at least of the universities of Ontario, for the purpose of enquiring whether our matriculation examinations might not be made more rational than they now are, and for the discussion of all questions affecting the interests of higher education. The past history of Queen's has shown, I think, that she will not stand in the way of any necessary reform. In the matter of post-graduate work we are fortunately in a more independent position. The main limit here is in the relatively small number of our teachers, considering the varied work that we undertake. But our condition is steadily improving. The recent additions to our staff make it possible for us to attempt something in the way of post-graduate work. We can at least draw up a scheme of post-graduate work and give some assistance to those who intend to do the whole or part of it in the university. Such a scheme is now under consideration, and will probably be published in the next Calendar. I make bold to suggest to the trustees of our university, that half a dozen Fellowships, of the annual value of, say, \$250 each, should be established, to be given to men who have taken high honors in one of the departments of study, and who are willing to stay on at the university in the prosecution of independent work. No money could well be better spent. Those are most deserving of help who show that they are eager to help themselves.

ADDRESS OF DR. WILLIAMSON.

HOWEVER happy we are to be able to look forward to the return of our much esteemed Principal before Christmas, with health thoroughly restored, to gladden us by his presence, it is impossible to avoid a feeling of regret that he is not among us to-day, that we might have the pleasure of listening to his eloquent and stirring words, and that he might rejoice with us on our improved position and yet brighter prospects for the future, the fruits mainly of his own indefatigable and self-sacrificing labours for the benefit of the university which he adorns.

We are now beginning to see and appreciate their practical results. Before he left on his vacation tour last March the minimum amount of the Jubilee endowment fund had been subscribed, and from December 1st, 1887, when the first instalments became due, they have been readily and faithfully met, so that the sum already paid into the treasurer, although the first year of receipts is not yet expired, is about \$77,000. The trustees have not yet enabled to appoint two new professors to important chairs, and a lecturer upon political economy, to enter upon their duties from the commencement of the present session. The third story of the main college building, formerly occupied as an armoury and lumber room, has been fitted up into four commodious class rooms, and the second story of the library has been completed on the same plan as the story below so that the amount of shelving has been doubled and thus been made available for the reception of the valuable works recently presented to the library by the Imperial and United States governments, and by private donors. Upon the reports of Profs. Dupuis and Goodwin, who had been directed to visit some of the leading universities and schools of science in the United States, a plan for the new school of science is to be prepared and submitted to the trustees at their next meeting.

It will be remembered that the sum of \$250,000 was the minimum required to provide for the pressing necessities of the university, and that at least \$100,000 more was to be aimed at for the establishment of tutorships and fellowships in the post-graduate courses, for the equipment of the science hall, and the endowment of a "Grant" chair. The work of obtaining additional subscriptions is, therefore, to continue, and is to be prosecuted by the Rev. Dr. Smith, general secretary of the board.

Queen's, fulfilling its noble function in tranquillity, has reason to be every day more convinced, if possible, of the wisdom of the course which it has pursued. It has always held that the higher training in learning and science ought, like the light of divine truth, to be made as accessible as possible to all throughout the land, and its authorities and friends have, therefore, been unanimous in refusing to be parties to the scheme to concentrate all the means of university education in one place, to the detriment of the common weal and of the people of the province at large. Such centralization was never