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"HUMANITY."*

BY PROF. T. R. GLOVER.

A VERY few words will set forth the views with which I have undertaken the duties of Professor of Latin in Queen's University. If you will look into the calendars of the universities of Scotland, you will find, as a general rule, that the Latin chair is there styled the chair of "Humanity." In this name, in my opinion, is summed up all that is connected by the study of Latin. In the middle ages, from which this name comes, Latin represented the culture of mankind; Latin was synonymous with education; Latin was the one great training-ground of the mind. And to-day there is no better road to culture than the study of Greek and Latin. Philosophers may talk of the necessity for promoting accuracy of thought, and urge the claims of philosophy as the best means of attaining it; but the classicist asks the same thing, and if the experience of Great Britain may be trusted, the study of the classics has done more for insuring accuracy of thought even than philosophy.

When I became a candidate for the chair, to which the trustees have so kindly elected me, I under-

took, if appointed, to do all I could for the advancement of Queen's as a place of sound learning and religious education. Of sound learning, because it is the necessary foundation for men who would think well, and who would act well. Slovenliness and unsoundness are fatal to everything in every sphere of life, and one of the most important duties of a Latin professor is to train men in accuracy and thoroughness. This is no mere academic affair; these qualities are indispensable in the world, and are yet among the greatest gains of academic training.

Of "religious education," because as a distinguished Cambridge friend of mine says, "all theologies are Theologie," and every man should be a theologian. All knowledge of human thought and human life points one way, and should contribute to our religious development. In the Latin language is written the thought of man for two thousand years. Whatever was of worth in thought or speech or action for sixty generations is set forth in that language, and he who can read it can enter in the minds of the great men of old. We can by the aid of Latin see the records of the growth and decline of the greatest empire of history—greater than our

* Address at the Convocation of Queen's University 15th Oct., 1896, by Prof. T. R. Glover.