

while we view with unalloyed satisfaction the due prominence given to physical sciences, there is no disposition to relegate to an inferior place the study of the classics, or of comparative philology and all the invaluable training which philosophy and literature supply. The student of science will indeed be very inadequately equipped for his work if all that we owe to Greek philosophy lies beyond his reach. In the departments of mental and moral science, of ancient and modern languages and literature, and of history, the appliances needed to supplement the lectures of an efficient staff are mainly to be looked for in a well-stored library; and while we have yearly to deplore the limited fund available for the college library, nevertheless its carefully selected literature, now numbering nearly 26,000 volumes, is creditable to our young college at the accumulations of a single generation. And if we look with satisfaction on the increase of valuable appliances in every department of teaching, there is still more reason for congratulation by the friends of higher education on the growing numbers of our students. We have to contend with the honourable rivalry of kindred institutions eager to pass us in the race. We have also to encounter the detraction of ignoble rivals who strive in vain to discredit us by their misrepresentations. So long as we are able to point to such practical evidence as our growing numbers supply, in proof of the favour with which University College is now regarded by the people of Ontario, we can afford to smile at such detractions. It is impossible for those who, like myself and my old friend Professor Chapman, recall the little handful of students with whom we entered on the work of this college upwards of thirty years ago, to look with other than feelings of pride and gratification on the students as they muster here

to-day in our large, yet inadequate Convocation Hall. They sufficiently indicate how far we have already outgrown what, when originally built, was supposed to be of needlessly ample dimensions. But a novel feature invites attention now. The University has for years thrown open its competitive examinations and honours to lady students; and in this none has more heartily sympathized than myself. But such a step necessarily led to the demand for facilities of training in some degree commensurate with those enjoyed by the students of University College. On this subject I cannot do better than quote the address delivered by me in the Music Hall of this city fifteen years ago, in inaugurating the first movement for the higher education of women. The aim of the association then formed was, as I said, "to secure for ladies facilities for training in the higher departments of mental culture in some degree corresponding to those already available for young men. The liberal scale on which this Province has provided for education in the higher departments of learning has already won for it an honourable pre-eminence among the States and Provinces of this Western Hemisphere. But the ample provision thus secured for the training of young men in letters, science, and philosophy, only renders thereby the contrast more striking and invidious which leaves to the other sex nothing beyond the Common and the county Grammar School. The need of something more cannot be doubted. To what extent the want is as yet felt among ourselves the present movement is designed to test;" and the question was accordingly then submitted to the ladies of Toronto, and of the Province at large, whether there really existed among them such a desire for higher culture, and such a willingness to do the work of actual