

It is necessary that some order should be observed in taking up different studies, as the information gained by some is necessary in prosecuting others, and the habits of mind formed by some studies will be the natural condition for the successful prosecution of others. A large part therefore of a general course of study in our colleges should be prescribed. A system that may be wise in a German university, may be quite out of place in Canada. The freedom of choice in studies, which marks the German university, is preceded by the drill of the long, full and prescribed course of the German gymnasium. The colleges and universities of our land scarcely do for our youth what his gymnasium does for the German. The experience of those who have been over the road, who know the studies, who know the order of mental development, ought to count for something in framing the best course of study. When our academies shall come to do most of the work now done in our colleges, then students may be permitted to arrange their studies. As the education of the people approaches that grade, the principle of options may be gradually introduced.

In the argument in favor of a federation of colleges, it was stated that young men were becoming impatient of long courses of study, and therefore it was found desirable to blend general and professional subjects. So far as I can learn, provision is made for this blending of studies in the Arts' course of the Toronto federation, only for theological students. It may be questioned whether this is a wise arrangement. Candidates for the university will do better to ask for no favors of this kind. It is better for them to take their places in the general course of study with the candidates for the other professions; do the same work, take the same kind of discipline; show themselves in this way the equals of their fellows, susceptible to the same influences, appreciative of the same excellencies. Then, after the professional schools have been passed, when they meet in active life, they will understand each other better, they will have more respect for each other. Besides, the state of mind in which one pursues theological studies is so different from that in which he carries on the ordinary studies of the Arts' course, that it is difficult to conceive how he can pass from the one state to the other on the stroke of the clock.

Theological studies are so exacting in their demands

on the time and the feelings of the honest student, that if he attempts to carry on general studies at the same time, it is almost certain that he will attend to these only in a perfunctory manner, and hence receive a one-sided development. Or, if he takes up his theological studies just as he takes up his classics and his science, he is likely to receive from these just about as much special preparation for the ministry as from the former. This substitution of so many theological subjects in the Arts' course cannot be viewed as advancement in the higher education, nor as giving any substantial advantage to theological students. It is to be regretted that an institution having so many excellencies and so much prestige as the Toronto University, should be willing to lend its favor to such a mistake.

If the enquiry is made: How shall all that we have been considering affect us in regard to our work here, we can only reply—In no other way than by stimulating us to greater earnestness in developing our own college according to the principles and pattern which the experience of the past is commending to us.

MARCH.

The seasons on the plains make savage war
 In whirling battle—down along the shore,
 The river over, on the sea afar,
 The struggling armies meet their enemies.
 The winds rise high with hoarse and thunderous roar;
 The breakers frothy, lashed by every breeze,
 Dash hissing w' itened crest, and broken wave
 That rise and fall, upon the shaken dyke,
 The sea o'er topping. Thro' the rusty ice,
 Like massy boulders cut in strange device,
 The shrieking winds, fast whirling, onward rave,
 And catch the hidden streams to strike
 Them into spray. Now with the maddened air,
 Snow blinds the sight, concealing for awhile
 The conflict. Swift, the feathery atoms scale
 O'erhead; brief from the tumbling darkness there
 Of clouds careening, comes a sunny smile
 To gaze upon the dreary moaning swale.
 Above, the floating gull calls to his mate,
 And downward darting in their swift career,
 Alight together where the winds abate;
 So white their wings, so graceful in the air