

State. The principles recognized in the administration of justice and the determination of civil rights are among the highest texts of national progress, and those it is its function to determine. It has, therefore, even more to do with the statesman and law-maker than with the judicial administrator. But if adequately taught, political science, constitutional law and jurisprudence cannot fail to exercise an elevating influence alike on the lawyer and the statesman. If the bar of Canada is to advance in any degree commensurate with the progress of the country, so as to furnish men qualified to win for our own Supreme Court the confidence now reposed in the Privy Council as a final court of appeal, they must have the opportunity of mastering the knowledge on which jurisprudence is based. So, too, if Canadian statesmen are to cope with the grave issues that must constantly arise, affecting the relations of the federal provinces to the central government, and the no less critical questions of international comity in which our own interests and those of the empire are involved, it is no less indispensable that they shall be able to bring the experience and the wisdom of past ages to bear on the decisions of the present.

As an important step toward the accomplishment of this aim we have now the pleasure of welcoming in the new professor of political science a fellow and lecturer of Lincoln College, Oxford, who comes to us accredited by the most eminent of British historians, by other high authorities of Oxford and Cambridge, and by distinguished professors of foreign universities. The department of history has hitherto occupied a precarious place in the honour courses of this university. I welcome, therefore, with peculiar satisfaction, the establishment of a chair thus efficiently

equipped, which will give a new significance and value to historical study.

Happily at this same stage a rearrangement of the work has been effected so as to bring ancient history into more direct connection with classical studies. The branches of Hellenic and Roman history will now be reviewed in their immediate relation to Greek and Roman literature. Thus with increased facilities we enter on the work of a new year, stimulated by fresh incentives to exertion in the treatment of a department of study, which, under whatever limitations it may be placed will baffle the efforts of the most diligent student to wholly master it. Grote found in the history of Greece the work of a lifetime; in the experience of Gibbon that sufficed for no more than the record of Rome's decline and fall; while for Macaulay life proved too short for one pregnant chapter of England's national story. No subjects, moreover, call for more discriminating judgment in their treatment from the professor's chair than those now referred to. The remark of a distinguished Oxford professor applies no less to the teaching of political science than of history. "It was necessary," he said, "at starting to warn the students that they come to him for knowledge, not for opinions; and it would be his highest praise if they left him with increased materials for judgment, to judge for themselves with an open and independent mind." Yet, while this will, under certain limitations, be the aim of every wise teacher, his instruction would become an abstraction as insubstantial as Prospero's vision if he did not marshal the disclosures of history in such a way as to give some clear insight into their manifest teachings. The impartial historian is, he who manifests at all hazards an inexorable regard for truth, and a capacity for its unprejudiced discernment, how-