

tion to a board of examiners of two printed theses; one in French, the other in any language taught in the university.\* These theses he must also "sustain" in a *vivâ voce* examination; but this, though conducted publicly and with some ceremony, has lost much of its old importance. The thesis in a modern language is practically always a book of some length, embodying the results of work among unprinted materials. As an example of the subjects chosen I may mention that in 1901 the degree was gained by a French thesis on Dupleix, which at once became the standard life of that statesman, and a Latin dissertation on "The French in Madagascar."

Few foreign students care to go through such a mill, and in view of their rapidly-increasing numbers,† the University of Paris has recently instituted two courses, one leading to the *Certificat d'études Françaises*, the other to the *Doctorat de l'Université*. The former, open only to foreigners, is granted after an examination comprising translation from the student's native tongue into French, French dictation, and papers on three sets of lectures followed by the student during at least one academic year. The second, open to French and foreign students alike, corresponds to the *Doctorat-es-lettres*, already explained, save that one thesis only, written in French, is required. Two years of academic life, in Paris, or in any university recognized by the faculty, is the necessary preliminary to this degree. To those who take no examination, a certificate is given at the end of the year, stating the lectures which

they have followed, and their regularity of attendance.

The number of institutions which a Canadian may with advantage attend is large. The university, with over 10,000 students in its various faculties of Arts, Science, Law and Medicine, does brilliant work in all, especially in the last named. Next in order of seniority comes the Collège de France, founded (by Francis I.) at the Renaissance, and offering free to all a vast collection of lectures on many subjects, literary, historical and scientific. Here it was that Michelet, and later Rénan, delivered lectures which roused the attention of all Christendom, and though no present lecturer enjoys equal fame or gives equal offence, the Collège de France still boasts Classical scholars like Gaston Boissier, historians like Gabriel Monod, literary critics like Abel Lefranc. Next door to the university is the École des Chartes, founded by Napoleon, and giving an admirable training in Palaeography and the kindred sciences. The state supports technical colleges, in which all the myriad departments of engineering and of applied science are taught. Then there are the *Ecoles libres*, which means that they are free from state control, though by no means free gratis to the student. On the contrary, while the university, the Collège de France and the technical colleges are so liberally supported by the state that the fees are trifling, those in the *Ecoles libres* are in some cases much higher. Nor must one be led astray by the title of *Ecole*, for these are institutions of higher learning. Several devote themselves chiefly to

\*Prior to 1903, one thesis had to be in Latin, the others in French.

†In 1904, out of rather more than 8,000 students in the Department of Arts, over 500 were foreigners.