

not here to specify our wants and deficiencies. I am only desirous of bringing to your attention the fact long known to the professors, that there are many volumes of importance absent from our shelves which it should be our effort to possess.

This, however true, must not for a moment be taken to suggest neglect or indifference on the part of the Senate or any individual. Efforts had constantly to be devoted in other directions; to enlarge the endowment; to add to the College buildings; and to establish professorships. While these and other calls have continually demanded attention heretofore, the library has never been wholly neglected. It has ever been our desire to make the best possible provision for its maintenance and augmentation. It is these very attempts which have often brought to our minds the necessity of some concentrated effort to secure more liberal annual additions, and thus obtain before long a library of a higher standard than we now possess.

I believe I am correct in saying that there are not a few in Kingston who recognize that the establishment of a good free library in this city, as has been achieved in other Canadian cities, would prove of immense benefit to the people of Kingston. The success and the great public satisfaction which has attended the endowment of the free library in Toronto is acknowledged by every citizen; to many it is a priceless public boon, and it cannot be doubted that similar results would attend the establishment of a free library in Kingston.

In view, then, of these two truths, viz., 1. The pressing necessity of enlarging the University library. 2. The vast importance of a free library to the people of Kingston, it becomes a fit subject of enquiry how far it would be practicable to attain both objects by establishing a library to be used in common. The question is one which appeals directly to the University on the one hand, and the city of Kingston on the other. Neither can obtain all the advantages of a really good library a day too soon, and we all know that it is easier to establish one than two. All will admit, moreover, that one large library within the city would be infinitely better and more useful than two, or even a dozen, small libraries.

I am aware that objections may be raised to the University transferring its 25,000 volumes to a common collection, but would these objections be well founded? Would not these volumes remain equally available to every student, and would not the transfer gain to the University the benefit of a library of 50,000 well selected books, and eventually a much larger number, for it would obviously be a condition of the partnership that the city should add works of equal value, and that provision should likewise be made for steady annual additions.

I venture to throw out the suggestion for the consideration of all who may hear me, and I ask if it would not be regarded as mutually advantageous to the University and to the city to make some sacrifice in order to obtain a common interest in a library worthy of the name—one which under wise management might eventually become second to no library in the Dominion, and which would be open not to the students of Queen's University alone, but free to every man and woman within the limits of Kingston.

I feel that a duty, which is mingled with sadness, is entailed upon me on this the first public occasion at which I have been present since a sister University has suffered in the death of its president, Sir Daniel Wilson. We cannot forget that it is not long since he stood on the platform and extended to Queen's by his presence at Convocation a warm, fraternal sympathy.

Sir Daniel was born in Edinburgh 76 years ago. He had the advantage of a thorough training at that famous university, after which our own is modelled. From the first he accepted literature as a profession. History, Ethnology and Archæology were his favorite studies. For nearly fifty years he had been connected with Toronto University. How many generations of students has he known? Those who first attended his lectures and remain alive are now past middle life, and with them all, even to the last year's freshmen, he stood out a personification of trained ability, invariable courtesy and sympathetic kindness. No figure in the literary, social and religious life of Toronto has been more faithful in the performance of the obligation which rests upon all men,