

It will hardly be maintained that the country is not yet sufficiently advanced for the establishment of a University. As a money-making, or even as a self-supporting Institution, Nova Scotia cannot maintain a College; and, if we judge by the experience of other countries, it is doubtful if she ever will. No where, either in present or in former times, do we find self supporting Universities. Those of Oxford and Cambridge, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Dublin, as well as the Continental Colleges, are supported by liberal endowments,—partly from the Government, partly from munificent bequests of private individuals. These induce learned men to accept the chairs—to devote themselves to research and discovery in their peculiar subjects—and to hold out an opportunity of obtaining the highest education to that small class that appreciate and desire it; a class almost every where too small to remunerate the professor by their fees.

A University is designed to be in advance of the wants of the great bulk of the community. It is required to direct and stimulate those wants; to aid struggling genius; to foster and encourage literature and the sciences. Its missions, besides preparing for the learned professions, are: 1.—To educate to the highest point a certain class who have means and leisure to continue at their education beyond the ordinary school period, and who, mixing in the world with the accomplishments and higher tastes acquired at their Alma Mater, shall exercise an elevating and refining influence on the mass. 2.—To assist and forward the education of those in humbler circumstances whose talents render it desirable to secure them for literary or scientific pursuits. 3.—To seize new discoveries and enlarged views as they arise, teach them to the class within their reach, and thus aid in diffusing a knowledge of them and rendering them productive. 4.—To set aside, in the professors, a body of men of talents and acquirements for the special cultivation and extension of literature and philosophy.

Wherever we find a few with talents and a taste for knowledge; wherever two or three are found with genius and an ardent zeal for literary or scientific pursuits, but without means to provide for the cultivation of these tastes and talents; wherever there are a few