

man several years in the race of life. no small drawback in these days of hurry and stress. This suggests the more general disadvantages caused by the characteristic qualities of Oxford life, the spacious generous existence of an English gentleman, whose word is his bond, whose whole character is saturated with that noble credulity which Thucydides considered so important an ingredient in true manliness, that hospitality in which, as has been said, "Everything but money is free, and you've only got to ask the next man for that." Such a man returning to Canada may, as Goldwin Smith aptly says, work hard, but he will never bargain hard. His coequals in Canada are ahead of him in the material race of life, are harder and more aggressive than himself; his very excellences unfit him for the struggle; and his dissatisfaction will draw material on the one hand from the superior financial progress and selfsatisfaction of his old playmates, and on the other hand hearing of the imperial careers of those who in the glad Oxford days were not a whit superior to himself. There is more than one man in Canada whom an old-world training has done more to despirit than to arouse. All this is on the assumption that he returns to Canada, but one of the chief objections to the Rhodes' Scholarships is that so many of our most promising graduates may be drawn away by the allurements of the older and more cultured civilisation, and be lost to their native land. We lose too many as it is, both to Britain and to the United States; the Rhodes' bequest adds to our danger of sharing a fate analogous to that of Portugal, which in the sixteenth and,

seventeenth centuries sent so many of her best and bravest to rule her colonies that the mother-country fell into decay.

That the course at Oxford need not unfit a man for practical life Rhodes is himself a striking example; but this itself brings out the curious truth that the Rhodes' scholars are likely to be very different from those whom the pious founder had in mind. Rhodes was himself a youth when at Oxford, and while he became saturated with its atmosphere of architectural charm and historic association, he was in no sense a scholar, or one who attached excessive importance to scholarship. The Union, the College Debating Society, the river, the playing fields—these were the arenas on which he seems to have hoped that his candidates would jostle with their home-born brethren. The three years limit which he imposed looks very much as if he had expected them to take the Pass course, the direct educational value of which is little, if at all, higher than that of a Pass degree in Toronto or Queen's. But Dr. Parkin and the trustees have driven several coaches and six through the will already, and the colonies, avid of distinction, and eager to share in the educational treasures of the old world, have in most cases decided to send men of more mature years, and the trustees have obtained special permission for them to do so from the university authorities. The average age of the British freshman is eighteen to twenty; at many of the colleges all over twenty-one must obtain special permission to enter; whereas Dalhousie has set the age limit of Rhodes' scholars at twenty-five, and Toronto University at twenty-six, with a minimum qualifica-