

thing to do. It would be worse than a waste of time to revive their memories. We cannot return to the year 1840 or 1850 or 1860 or 1870, and it is well that we cannot. We have to do with the position of to-day. What is that position? Why, simply this. That no one now dreams that one college is sufficient for Ontario. University consolidation is another matter, though people often mix up the two questions rather ludicrously, and speak as if the consolidation of the universities would diminish the expense of teaching in the colleges. Everyone now admits that Ontario not only has, but that it needs several colleges, and the only question now is whether all these must be in Toronto or not? That question, too, scarcely requires discussion. Seeing, then, that there are several colleges, all of them in need of increased funds, and some of them doing their best to meet the necessities of their case, without putting their hands into their neighbours' pockets, I would have supposed that the representative of the one whose friends have hardly yet been appeased to, would have faced the difficulty before him in one of two ways. (1.) either by calling upon the Province to help, according to a

#### WISELY CONSIDERED PLAN

that would stimulate voluntary effort, every properly equipped institution that is admittedly doing a good work for the Province; or (2.) by calling upon the wealthy people of Toronto and its neighbourhood, and the graduates and friends of University College, to put their hands into their own pockets. This latter and perhaps more excellent way is the one favoured by Dr. Wilson, the President of University College, whose repeated words of brotherly recognition I cordially accept and reciprocate. He is a wise man and knows the Province well, and he did his duty in giving public warning that a proposal to assist one college with public moneys would arouse a not unreasonable opposition on the part of all the others. It would be a public calamity were the present friendly relations between institutions that have a common and generous aim to be disturbed. But we would be destitute of self-respect did we not unitedly and determinedly oppose a scheme that implies not only our own spoliation, but that is based on the idea that we are somehow pledged to the aggrandizement of Toronto, rather than to the well-being of our own Alma Mater. I would subscribe willingly, as liberally as my means would permit, to any fund for improving the condition of

#### UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

But men who would give \$100 as a gift will

resolutely refuse a cent when it is demanded as a right. On this subject it is unnecessary to enlarge at present, but I have no wish to conceal that the words which I have just expressed are not only my sentiments, but the sentiments of the heads, and so far as I know, of the benefactors of this and other colleges. And perhaps I may be permitted, as a friend of University College, for I claim to be such, though they may regard this as unpalatable counsel, to hint, that what it most needs is not Government interference, patronage or subsidies, but the chivalrous, self-sacrificing support of its own children, "the deeds, not words," of those who most loudly assert its claims.

I have time for only a few words to the students. The Senate extends a hearty welcome to those who have returned, and to the freshmen. Gentlemen, let us never forget to attend with all our might to the duty that lies nearest to us. You have come here to study, and everything must be subsidiary to that. Captain of a University foot-ball club nearly thirty years ago, and having just returned from crossing

#### THREE GREAT RANGES OF MOUNTAINS,

on horseback and foot, the Chancellor and myself forcing our way up and down precipices, across torrents, through beaver dams, devils' clubs by the million, and the densest underbrush I have ever seen, you may be certain that I am not likely to belittle sport, manly games, or any kind of muscular Christianity. But I am afraid that some of you are a little inclined to forget the rule of proportion, and instead of giving nine hours a day to study and three to athletics, would fain invert the proportion, or worse, remit books to the Christmas or Easter holidays, which means to the Greek Kalends. Gentlemen, it is an awful thing to be a fool.

#### A FOOL

is a man who does not live close to realities. And a man is living in dreamland and not on *terra firma* who acts as if games of any kind would enable him to earn his living, develop his mind or form his character. Stick to foot-ball of course, but I will think less of the good old game than I ever did unless I find that the best foot-ballers are also good students. Begin work resolutely this very night. Let this be the best year of our lives. Unseen eyes are beholding us; hearts far away are throbbing with mingled fear and hope on our account. Let us be true to them and to ourselves; then may we expect that God will bless us, and that right early."