

worthily maintain the inheritance thus bequeathed to them, they will recall with pride the incident which presents its hardy pioneers while literally hewing out their first clearings in the forest, and displacing the Indian wigwam with the log-hut of the farmer, thus anticipating the wants of later generations, and dedicating 500,000 acres of the uncleared wilderness to provide for the educational requirements of the infant state. To them, and not to the Royal Donor of its charter, this University owes the gratitude due to its founders. Nor have they missed their reward. The roll of its distinguished graduates already includes the names of men who have borne an honorable part as statesmen in critical times; who have taken the highest rank on the Bench and at the Bar; and have creditably filled responsible posts in academic, civic, and commercial life. But we are even now in the gristle, and have yet to progress to a well developed maturity. The acorn that some autumn gale of that elder century dropped in the solitude of the Canadian forest now spreads its branches to the winds, a vigorous young oak; and, if left untouched by rude hands, may flourish a thousand years hence, a memorial of our historic dawn: like the Conqueror's Oak in the Royal Chase, associated with the deeds of William of Normandy; or Herne's Oak, the memorial of the later age of England's Maiden Queen, and Shakespeare's "Merry Wives of Windsor."

But neither oak nor seat of learning can flourish, if subjected to constant transplanting or endless unrest. Time is needed ere the healthy sapling realize the motto, "*velut arbor avo*," which voices the University's symbolic crest of the Maple Tree. We have, indeed, seen in the history of the Cornell and Johns Hopkins Universities what can be accomplished by such institutions when started on their career with an adequate endowment. Nor, with its narrower resources, has this University failed to make a name for itself; or train more than one generation to do it honor. But much has yet to be accomplished before even Harvard or Yale can claim equality with the venerable centres of Europe's academic life: with their alumni, the world's