

his "Idea of a University": "A University should not be the birthplace of poets or of immortal authors, of founders of schools, leaders of colonies or conquerors of nations." By this he means a student should not devote all his time to Literature or History. Continuing, he says: "But a University training is the great ordinary means to a great but ordinary end, it aims at raising the intellectual tone of society, at culturing the public mind, at purifying the natural taste, at supplying true principles to popular enthusiasm and fixed aims to popular aspiration, at giving enlargement and sobriety to the ideas of the age, at facilitating the exercise of political power, and refining the intercourse of private life."

This is what we are upholding when we say that the Universities of the present day are practical intellectually, and that they are the only means by which the great but ordinary end may be attained. During the last nineteen hundred years, since the birth of Christianity, and for four thousand years before that period, University training has been built up to what it is at the present time by the most learned men of each generation, and should we now put aside the fruit, labor and experience of thousands of years? Are we to listen to a few men who pretend to be very learned and well versed in this subject, when they have had at the most only forty or fifty years to study the question, when it has required centuries to bring the University to its present state of perfection? Would you call this a practical move, to throw aside the work of hundreds and even thousands of learned men, to introduce the ideas of a few, who wish to make some financial gain by the change?

Look back over the pages of History: we find the great men University graduates: John Milton, who was one of the best of English poets, was a graduate of Christ College, Cambridge, in the year 1632. William Penn, the founder of the colony of Pennsylvania, was a graduate of Oxford in 1654. William E. Gladstone, a graduate of Oxford, was "the foremost Saxon-speaking man on the globe," according to Dr. Cryler. Let us come down to our own day. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the biggest statesman of Canada to-day, graduated with the degree of B.A. from Assumption College. Charles Alphonse Pelletier is a graduate of Laval University. William Taft, the President of the Great Republic to the South of us, is a graduate of Yale; and the list could be continued indefinitely.

My object in numerating these University graduates is to illustrate that the education given in the Universities is suffi-