

In his recent inaugural address on the "Unity of all Learning," Principal Peterson gave a timely reminder of an important aspect of education. McGill needs it. It began as a medical school, and its circumstances have favoured a technical growth. Situated in our one great commercial city, it is supported by business men who generally look with indifference on "liberal education," but will freely contribute to the "useful sciences." While still in its youth it secured the services of an eminent scientist, who for many years directed its course, and only lately retired in his old age. During Sir William Dawson's time the college made great advances. Lately the equipment has been immensely increased, but almost entirely in the department of science. It is fortunate that a classical scholar has now taken the helm. We hope to see the academic balance restored.

Ontario colleges need to be reminded of the same truth. Recent years have shown a marked tendency to specialization—a tendency also seen in other countries, notably the United States, and, perhaps, a sign of the times. There may be difference of opinion regarding the aggravating cause in Ontario; the fact few will deny and many regret. After the thorough training given in the English and better American schools, specialization may be allowable, but three-fourths of our matriculants are hastily and ill-prepared, and a thorough general course is most desirable. Yet we are safe in affirming that the majority specialize in their second year. The result is that capable men leave college masters of one subject, but not really educated.

If all knowledge is a unity, the corresponding faculties are also organically related, and the natural preparation for any work is the development of these several faculties, *i.e.*, education. The condition of mental growth is, therefore, a thorough course in language and mathematics, followed by literature and philosophy. Given these, the student will easily master any subject. He will also see that subject in its relation to others, and so be saved from the narrowness frequently found in all professions. Until the pass matriculant is prohibited from entering an honour course, or taking extra classes in anticipation, until at least his third year, we may expect crammed specialists; nor need we be surprised when professors violate the "Queen's English," or despise every subject on the curriculum but their own.

* * *

Above all the tumult of the political world and the distant mutterings of war, the cry of outraged Armenia continues to be heard, and is attracting to that unhappy land the attention and sympathy of the whole Christian world. Nearly twenty years

have elapsed since the misdeeds of the "unspeakable Turk" in Bulgaria resulted in the division of the Ottoman empire, but he does not seem to have profited by that costly experience. The Venezuelan and South African imbroglios temporarily diverted the attention of governments from Moslem fanaticism, but already there are indications that the eastern question is about to resume its place as the one great problem which confronts Europe.

It is now over twelve months since Mr. Gladstone lifted up his voice on behalf of Armenia, and that scathing arraignment of the Turk, uttered when the news of the massacre at Sassoun lacked full confirmation, has since been more than justified by well authenticated reports from that district as well as by the more recent butcheries in other parts of Armenia. Whether the proper solution of the eastern question demands the extinction of the Turkish empire, the further parcelling up of the dominions of the Sultan, or merely the forcing of the sublime Porte to restrain the fanaticism of the Kurds and other Moslems and to guarantee religious liberty to all classes of subjects, must be left to the wisdom of the Christian powers of Europe.

But in the meantime there is a practical duty confronting the people of the civilized world, and especially the Christian people of Canada and the United States, who have sent many missionaries to that land. The destitution of the people and the rigors of the winter in that mountainous region bid fair to finish the work of devastation begun by the Moslem sword, and to settle the Armenian question once for all by the extermination of this ancient, industrious and God-fearing race. This would be an everlasting crown of shame to the closing years of the 19th century.

The duty of the hour is to save the Armenian. This demands the prompt liberality of the Christian people of all lands. Our missionaries now in Armenia and the devoted members of the Red Cross league may be trusted to expend wisely all funds sent to them. The need is urgent and the response should be generous and prompt. Already steps have been taken in many places to raise funds for the relief of the Armenians, and Principal Grant has recently brought to our notice and to the notice of the people of Ontario generally an appeal from one of our men, Mr. Chambers, now laboring in that country. This appeal, we are glad to say, is meeting with a hearty response from the college men in Toronto and other places. The members of Divinity Hall have already contributed liberally, and we trust that Queen's men, as well as the college men of Canada generally, will show themselves ready to make some sacrifice for the sake of this persecuted people, whose only crime consists in their determination to worship Christ rather than Mahomet, the prophet of Allah.