

come conscious that it is better, for the sake of medicine, to lose individuality and enter a larger brotherhood than to struggle against growing difficulties, displays a spirit which ought to be similarly met.

A recent English historian, who, in the opinion of a distinguished French contemporary, turned whatever he touched into gold, was fond of distinguishing the Eastern Question as eternal. The epithet might be not unfittingly applied to the question of the relation of the partial student to the University. The partial student is a never-failing theme for discussion, and scarcely a Session passes in which he does not figure in debate. By some he is regarded as a weakling, or as an interloper bent on winning prizes and distinctions in competition with more heavily burdened and consequently unequally matched competitors; in fact, the view is now and then maintained that a university ought to exist for undergraduates alone. Only a short time ago the Faculty of Arts took action regarding partial students, with the result that the session which has just ended shows a marked falling-off in their number. After deliberation, the Faculty resolved to exact certain requirements of all partial students and, failing the presentation of satisfactory certificates, to examine those who wished to take partial courses and who, at the same time, had not passed beyond the limit of school years. The schools of Montreal and its neighbourhood were understood to have a grievance against the University because of its proving a counter attraction strong enough to militate against the completion of the school course, and accordingly the Faculty took, and wisely took, the step it did with the object of giving the schools free play, and of largely restoring a condition of things which existed formerly. In our opinion the partial student is rather to be encouraged than ignored. There is something wrong with all Faculties, and especially with the Faculty of Arts, if they do not include partial students in all branches of their work. The argument really turns on the quality and aims of the partial students themselves. If they come to the University qualified to take advantage of the instruction they seek and display sustained effort in their work, they ought to be welcomed as giving proof that the University is attractive and is making its influence felt beyond the restricted area of undergraduates. Perhaps, too, they contribute their share in preventing a university from indulging in the too comfortable feeling of the parochial minister who is "at his Hercules' pillars in a warm benefice." On the other hand to prevent the regulation just mentioned from excluding earnest students and at the same time to keep in force what the Faculty deems essential, the conditions of entrance have more recently been relaxed, so that anyone who is desirous of taking partial courses and who has reached the age of seventeen—