

1,900,000 children. In 1878 this increased to accommodation for 3,950,000—an enormous stride. Still it must be borne in mind that their school population was calculated at about 5,000,000, and it would be much larger were their school age the same as ours. The attendance in 1878 was 3,150,000, so that there would be nearly 2,000,000 children, or of the whole population two-fifths, not attending school at all. Upon this question we might congratulate ourselves upon holding a very fair position. The High Schools in 1871 were 102, and in 1878 there were 104, but the increase of scholars was very striking. In 1870 there were 7,490 persons attending the schools, in 1877, 9,230, and in 1878 it had risen to 10,570, or an increase of 34 per cent. as compared with an increase of 10 per cent. in the elementary schools, shewing that there had been a growing appreciation on the part of the public of the advantages of extending the time to be devoted to the education of their children. As was to be expected, the same influence which had produced these results had extended to this institution, as would be seen by the figures he would quote to them. In 1871 the number of entrants was 44, and the number of undergraduates actually taking the course of the University was 139. In 1877 the number of entrants rose to 73, and of undergraduates to 259. In 1878 there were 151 entrants and 290 undergraduates. In 1879 there were 161 entrants and 390 undergraduates. For the present year the numbers were not yet made out, but it was expected that they would be able to boast that for 1880 the number of undergraduates would be not less than 400. Nor were the sources from which these undergraduates and entrants were derived of less consequence than their numbers. They indicated the making up of our educational machinery, and, so far as this was concerned, the statistics were most satisfactory. As nearly as he could ascertain, the 150 matriculants for 1878-9 might be divided as follows: From Upper Canada College, 15; from 26 High Schools, 84; from 8 Collegiate Institutes, 60. The other sources comprised Dundas Institute, Woodstock Institute, Rockwood Academy, Assumption College, Ottawa Normal School, St. Michael's College, Wilberforce Institute, Yarmouth Seminary, private tuition, and those who were self-taught, making in all fifty different sources from which these undergraduates have been derived. That was evidence of the truly Provincial character of this institution in its practical working. That told them that it was not, as its name would seem to indicate, a merely local University; and he had sometimes—*Torontonian* though

he was—regretted that they had named it the "*Toronto University*;" it was a *University* of the whole Province, and young men were sent from all parts of the Province to take advantage of the facilities for education which it offered. From the High Schools (including the Collegiate Institutes) the number of students received in the year 1878 was 124, which in 1879 was increased to 136. He was sure that all would wish with him that that state of things might not merely continue but increase, that there might be a still wider diffusion of these various seminal principles, that as the High Schools grow, and flourish, and strengthen we may boast not merely of 35 out of 100 of the High Schools and Institutes sending their men to the University, but that a still larger proportion may do so. And still more, they might find county after county, town after town, sending their picked men from the elementary schools to the High Schools of the county, and from there on to this University to receive its honours and reap the rewards of their labour. There was still much to be done. There was still an immense deal too much of this practice of sending young men into the world without a University training to begin the battle of life. In this country it was more especially essential that, where at all possible, the training of young men should be continued into the University. The great bulk of those sent forth from the University did not stay in this city, but went to other places throughout the Province. In the young and poor country in which we live, and particularly in the more rural part, it was difficult for the young man, whatever his business might be, to continue the course of mental training which he began in the University. There were fewer libraries, fewer opportunities for reading, less mental friction and discussion, and necessarily a less advanced state of culture in the people by whom he was surrounded. In his own (Mr. Blake's) profession the proportion of those entering who had a University training was smaller than he could wish. He had taken the trouble to collect some statistics for the last five years, shewing the number of entrants to the Ontario Law Society of Osgoode Hall, and he was sorry to say that out of the very large number only about one-fourth were graduates in any University, and three-fourths were men who had not taken a degree. Now, he had no doubt whatever that the great bulk of those men would have liked a University training, and he had no doubt that it would have been a great thing for the public if they had obtained a degree. What he wished to point out to the friends throughout the Province who had children growing up was