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QUEEN'S AND THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS.



NE who is a graduate both of Queen's and of Oxford finds it hard to speak impartially on the subject of Queen's and the Rhodes Scholarships. Shall I sing the glories of my old-world Mother? I lay myself open to the charge of self-conceit, and to the still more odious accusation of suggesting her superiority to Queen's. Shall I dispraise her? Complain that she is not up-to-date. dub her "the opera bouffe among universities? I am justly accused of ingratitude, at once callow and unfilial. Even to attempt a judicial estimate is to be called wanting in natural affection to one; if not to both, of those whom I hold very dear.

Upon what callings do the pick of the graduates of English universities enter, in the old world? Those whose private means are sufficient take up the opulent semi-feudal life of country gentlemen, and devote themselves to relieving the distresses of the countryside; in later life they form one of the most valuable elements in both houses of parliament. Of such a class Canada is almost destitute. Our best example is perhaps The Hon. Sidney Fisher, who, however, is rather *sui generis* than a distinctive type in Canadian public life. Very many enter one of

the twenty-two colleges in Oxford, or of the nineteen in Cambridge, as Fellows, Tutors or Lecturers, at once to possess—even in these days of diminishing land values—an easy and cultured existence, inspiring and ennobling work, and ample time for carrying on original reading and research. Compared to the Fellowships yearly offering in Oxford alone, how meagre is the number of corresponding academic positions with us. The Home and Indian Civil Services offer yearly to free competition some 120 positions, of which at least forty are won by Oxonians; in Canada one of these avenues is wanting, and the career offered by our Home Civil Service is so different from that in Britain that it need not be further considered. Journalism, the diplomatic service, student interpreterships, the army, are other fields which we in Canada are almost wholly unable to offer. Law and the church—and to a less extent medicine—afford much the same scope in Britain as in Canada, and the Rhodes' scholar who returns to his native land will be under the disadvantage of competing on equal terms with those some years his juniors. Thus, many openings for university men in Britain are wholly absent in Canada, while for others the Oxford course retards a