

in mind how small for many years was the number of young men entering University College, the number of women at present in attendance will be seen to be quite as large as any reasonable friend of the movement could expect at so early a stage.

We have never, however, regarded the admission of ladies to University College as by any means a solution of the problem of higher education for women. It was simply the concession of a right—an instalment of fair play. The university and its college are national institutions, and the policy which shut out one moiety of the nation from participation in their advantages was too old fogyish, too glaringly unjust, to be long tolerated in this free and democratic country. The admission of women to the lectures at University College costs the Province nothing, nor do we see how it stands in the way of any "more rational measures." We have always believed that but a small proportion of the number of young women who are ambitious of a thorough education will go to the University College, but that the right of all who wish to do so is clear. Meanwhile, those friends of higher education for women who do not like co-education, should bestir themselves to provide for the young women of Ontario some other and better means of securing the advantages of a full collegiate course. *The Week* should be in the van of the promoters of such an institution. We venture to predict that the warmest advocates of optional co-education will not be the most lax in supporting the movement.

Apropos to this important matter of women's higher education, we are glad to see hopeful indications of the success of the Donalds endowment and method at McGill. Sir William Dawson is said to have stated, at a recent meeting of the Ladies' Educational Association, at Montreal, that the total number of students now in the college under that endowment is fifty-one. Of these, twelve are undergraduates, nine are partials, taking three or more courses of lectures, the remainder are occasionals, taking one or two courses of lectures. The classes open to women are those in Latin, Greek, English, French, German, logic, mathematics, chemistry, and botany. At present there are regular students only in two years, but next session there will be regular students in all the years. In the arrangements for the third and fourth years it will be provided that there shall be separate classes for women in all the ordinary subjects up to the standard for the degree, giving them all the options enjoyed by male students. In each subject the lectures to men and women will be delivered by the same professor or lecturer, and the examinations will be identical. The degrees to beginners have not yet been formally decided by the corporation, but it may be considered as settled that they will be the same for women as for men. Have we no Donald Smiths in Ontario?

It should not be forgotten by the friends of university education for women that there is here, in Toronto, a public educational institution which has cost the province an immense amount of money, and which has completely outlived its

special usefulness, if it ever had any. This institution could not be put to so good a use in any other way, as by its conversion into a first-class Ladies' College. It ought to be immediately available for that purpose. Why a professedly liberal Government, with a Minister of Education ambitious of being progressive, should continue the costly anomaly and anachronism of Upper Canada College for a single year is hard to understand. The people do not want it, for they have their Collegiate Institutes, which are doing at least equally as good work at vastly less expense. There is now no family compact whose sons have to be educated and provided for at the public expense. We have no privileged classes for whom the country is under obligation to make special provision. In a word, Upper Canada College has to-day no *raison d'être* that will stand a moment's scrutiny. The sooner it is transformed into a useful and popular institution the better. Its handsome income, supplemented by the gifts of wealthy citizens, would suffice amply for at least the nucleus of a Provincial Ladies' College. Mr. Ross might make himself a public benefactor by bringing about so beneficial a change.

Special.

ELEMENTARY CHEMISTRY.

WATER.—*Continued.*

ORGANIC IMPURITIES.

The organic matter may be either of vegetable or animal origin, the latter being by far the most injurious; but water containing any considerable quantity of vegetable matter, partly in suspension and partly in solution, is decidedly unwholesome. Water may be tested for organic matter by the following methods:—

(1) *Potassium Permanganate.*

Exp. 11.—Fill a test-tube nearly full with the water to be examined, and add, by means of a glass tube, as much potassium permanganate as will impart a distinct pink tinge after stirring with the tube. Then fill another test-tube of the same size with distilled or rain water, and add the same quantity of permanganate solution. Place the test-tubes side by side on a sheet of white paper, and note any difference between the two tubes which may speedily or subsequently take place. If decoloration takes place rapidly, there is a strong probability that organic matter of animal origin is present, whereas slower changes indicate that vegetable matter is present. There are other substances, such as nitrates, iron, and sulphuretted hydrogen, which would produce the same effect as the organic matter. The presence of nitrates indicates that the water is unfit for use; the other two are not likely to be present in ordinary water. The decoloration is owing to the oxidation of the organic matter by the oxygen of the permanganate. A sort of rough estimate of the amount of organic matter may be made by observing the relative quantities of permanganate which different waters decolorize.

(2) *Chlorides.*—The presence of chlorides in water is always very suspicious, not that chlorides are in themselves of import-