

have not always met in the spirit of Caesar, when he could say *veni, vidi, vici*. Perhaps in many instances we could more truthfully say *veni, vidi, victus sum*. Yet we hope that even from our failures we have learned wholesome lessons which will profit us in the after time. Yes, we stand here to-day glad that our course of study, in so far as it was mixed up with the unpleasant and we would almost say unprofitable system of cram and final examinations, is, for most of us at least, a thing of the past. Some of us, it is true, may be so glad to get rid of cram and final examinations that we shall henceforth not do much more in the line of study. To such we would say, our present educative system, with its trying terminal examinations, prizes and medals, is particularly framed to meet your case. You need a goad to urge you on, and these are the goads which our teachers and professors adopt. But just here comes in the evils of the system, for the man who studies faithfully with a view to preparing himself as thoroughly as possible for the duties of life, will be called upon to answer to the prod in common with the dull, lazy ass who will not move without it. We are glad, then, that we are from under this goad, and that now we shall be able to study a subject closely without being distracted by the looming apparition of a final examination, or urged to efforts beyond our powers by the thought of possessing a medal. But we have other than selfish causes for joy to-day. Our dear old Alma Mater has given us great cause for rejoicing by the energetic efforts she has recently made to lead the van in higher education in Canada. No longer, we are devoutly glad to say, shall the oft-times supercilious student of Toronto University be excused for his ignorance if, in all the innocence of his heart, he asks whether or not Queen's has degree-conferring powers. Our new calendar, scattered throughout the length and breadth of this country, will show all intelligent people that Queen's possesses the power in a pre-eminent degree, in fact that she has so far soared to the heights of presumption as to think of conferring the degrees Ph. D. and D. Sc. It gives us unqualified delight to note these signs of progress in our Alma Mater. And this delight is intensified by the thought that we have the men and money in Queen's to make these sweeping changes in her curriculum a telling reality in the educational life of this Canada of ours. We are only sorry that many of us will not be privileged directly to benefit by this infusion of new brain power, and the consequent degree of new life, which have been added to the work of our University.

We hail with gladness the greater scope and thoroughness which recent changes have made possible in some other very important classes in our curriculum. These changes must mean increased diligence on the part of those who aspire in the future to the high position of graduates of Queen's. In this increased diligence, however, directed by able and sympathetic professors, we see the prospect of Queen's becoming even greater than she at present is.

And now we must, even at the risk of being hackneyed in our style, turn to say a few words of farewell, to our professors in particular. We part from you with regret, not because you are professors, for no student feels regret in parting with a *mere* professor any more than the laborer feels regret in parting with the machines which have aided him in his work, but because we have found in you men in the truest sense of that word. Your superior learning and experience you have not used in the way of making us more keenly feel our defects and inferiority. In your most exacting demands as professors we have sought and generally found your sympathy as fellow-men. You did not look upon us, and therefore did not treat us, as inanimate lumps of clay in the hands of a potter. Recognizing your own separate individuality, you were willing to concede a like privilege to us. Your object then as teachers was not to develop in your students reproductions of yourselves or any other man, but to show to each the most successful line along which he could realize the best that was in him, consistently with his individual peculiarities. Then outside of your class work you were not so awfully unbending and dignified as not to notice your students when meeting them. Your kind nod of recognition was always appreciated. Then your warm, friendly hand-shake, which we have been privileged to receive when returning to our work in the autumn, although perhaps a seemingly small thing to you, meant much to us. It gave us the impression that you were again glad to help us through another session's work, while it made us more willing than ever to be helped by such men. We have heard uncomplimentary remarks made at your expense by the students and perhaps by ourselves; but we have also heard praise lavishly poured out upon you, the latter being usually very largely in the ascendant. The proportion between the praise and blame which we have heard visited upon your heads was generally fixed by the degree of sympathetic good nature or cross-grained peevishness which you infused into your class work. That you were firm, yet considerate, in your demands for honest work we thank you. It has been beneficial to us. But that you at any time showed that the work done was more important in your eyes than the class who did the work, we do not thank you, for to such impressions, if they ever did arise, we can trace no good results.

At your homes we have always found a true welcome, and this to students in a strange city means much. We are, though students, social animals, and that you were so kind as to recognize this we feel thankful. Your welcome was always natural and free from that lofty condescension shown by the superior to the inferior, a condescension which must always be gall and wormwood to any free-spirited individual, be he student or mechanic, literate or illiterate. Yes, we thank you to-day for treating us like men, both in your capacity as professors and in your social relations with us—thank you that you always gave us credit for the possession of sufficient