

*From* LYMAN ABBOTT, D.D., *Brooklyn, New York.*

I BEG leave to add my own personal recommendation of Mr. W. S. Milner to those of others who know more fully his qualification for the chair of Latin in University College. My acquaintance with him is, it is true, slight; nor am I an expert in educational matters. But I am very confident that one of the great needs of our age is a greater attention to the literary side and a relatively less attention to the purely grammatical and philological side of the classics. We need some thoroughly trained philologists; but every well educated man ought to know something of the literary life of the Hebrews, the Greeks, and the Romans. The appreciation of this fact is certainly increasing in the United States, and, in my judgment, no one feature in Harvard University has done more to give it a front rank among our educational institutions than its attention to and its development of the literary life and spirit. Unless I greatly misunderstand Mr. Milner, he has a real genius in perceiving, and I judge also in communicating, this life, this spirit, this universal truth of the ancient literatures; and he will give, unless I greatly mistake, a distinct and very valuable feature to any institution which should extend any literary phase of study, especially in the higher classes, to his charge.