

a just sense of their worth; and foremost among them the distinguished scholar—my predecessor in this chair,—who has passed away in the fulness of his years, since our last College Convocation; but whose influence survives in the enduring fruits of his aptitude as a teacher; and in the high standard which he determined for classical scholarship in Canada. So long as the College has been efficiently equipped it has fulfilled the duties entrusted to it. But its record is now closed as a Faculty of Arts. The Chancellor justly remarked in his last address to the University, while the details of the Legislative measure which has since become law could only be surmised, that “the success of University College will depend on the strength of its staff.” This test of all academic possibilities—strength in numbers, still more, strength in intellectual capacity and teaching power,—is indisputable; and tried by its standard, the thing called University College, if standing alone, would fail. But for the actual work assigned to it, ample power is assured; and when it receives the promised additions, including Professors and Lecturers in English and Latin, in Oriental Languages, and Ancient History, it will take its place in the reorganised University: while with renewed hope we look down the long vista to be trodden by the foot-prints of younger generations, and anticipate for Ontario, and for Canada, the rich dawn of an ampler day.

The University of Toronto is identified in its inception with historical events of memorable importance. The loyal pioneers of Upper Canada who here reared for themselves homes under the shelter of the British Flag, had scarcely effected their first settlement on the shores of the great lakes, when they gave evidence of their intellectual sympathies and wise foresight, by efforts to secure some adequate provision for the education of their sons. No more creditable incident can be recalled in the early history of any country. It illustrates the character of the founders of Upper Canada as men of no ordinary type; differing indeed widely from the Puritan pilgrims of New England; but not unworthy to rank alongside of them as planters of another vigorous offshoot of the British oak. So long as their descendants