

out the world accepted as a mark of eminent scholarship and ability, and which usually accompanies mature years, to the successful writer of a couple of theses, who at the time of competing has probably done nothing to distinguish himself, and who may or may not afterwards prove himself worthy of his honors, and because it practically excludes those of her children whom the University would be proud to honor but whose useful, busy lives leave no time for such idle work as writing theses.

The true remedy seems to be to abolish the present system of theses, but while making the degree wholly or in part an honorary one, to confine it to those who have already obtained from the University of Toronto a degree in some one of the organized faculties. Let it be granted as the reward of scholarship or useful research, as the stamp of eminence in the learned professions or in literature. Then we shall still be able to say with pride that every degree conferred by the University of Toronto has a solid backing of fair, honest work, and that our Alma Mater does not go out of her way to increase her roll of graduates by offering empty honorary degrees 'from fear, favor, or affection, or the hope of reward.'

Yours truly,  
E. B. EDWARDS.

Peterborough.

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