

MORE THAN ONE HALF

the universities on the other side permit of co-education, and he thought he might fairly assume to discuss the question with the House pre-possessed in favour of his motion. He referred to the petition presented to University College asking permission for ladies to attend the college lectures, and he quoted the names of the many eminent persons who had signed that petition. He then quoted from the replies of various eminent educationalists to questions submitted by THE GLOBE as to the advisability of co-education. The President of Michigan University says the system has succeeded after a trial of 12 years. Dr. Burns, of Hamilton, says co-education has never once been abandoned wherever it has been tried. Is there stronger evidence to submit to this House than this fact that wherever tried it has never been abandoned. Principal Grant said he was in favour of it and said his own experience was with the system. Dr. Nelles speaks in guarded language, but he favours co-education, and has permitted the system at Victoria University. The President of Albert University approved of co-education, whose advantages far more than offset its disadvantages. Separate education is a waste of forces. Principal Macintyre, of the Brantford Ladies College, is adverse to ladies attending the lectures at University College. Mr. John Miller believes in co-education except in certain departments which, like physiology, for obvious reasons should be taught separately. Dr. Carlyle advises the opening of all our educational institutions to women as well as men. Principal McCabe, of Ottawa, is opposed to co-education, and even to the higher education of women generally. Dr. Burns said it would be a waste for the Province to duplicate its colleges for women, and the Province would not do it for women only. President White, of Cornell, says the general testimony is that none but good results have followed the system, this opinion being formed after an experience of co-education for twelve years. Since that time the whole tone of Cornell has been elevated. This, on the whole, is a strong volume of evidence. The Faculty of University College are not a unit as to co-education. Prof. Young says, under existing circumstances, females should be permitted to attend lectures at University College, until a separate institution should be built for them. He did not think any serious evils were to be apprehended from co-education at University College. He would ask if this House is prepared to vote two or three hundred thousand dollars for a college for ladies. He thought not. University College has difficulty enough to maintain itself for the education of male students, let alone the duplication of its advantages for women. He was in favour of granting the request of the young ladies who desired to attend the lectures. Due order and discipline would be observed as much with the presence of ladies as without them. Retiring rooms for ladies could easily be provided, and a separate entrance to the College. Would the students be hostile? The reverse is the case. The *Varsity*, the organ of the students spoke strongly in favour of co-education. The only objection that exists is that of the faculty of the College, and opinion there is divided. In conclusion he would say he was not wedded to co-education as co-education. It was in order to avoid a waste of money and resources and to avoid a waste of teaching power that he thought it was expedient for the Province to go in for co-education at University College.

(Applause.)

Mr. METCALFE said the question of co-education which had received the sanction of the great educationalists of Europe should commend the motion to the members of the House. He hoped his hon. friend's motion would have no opposition. It had been decided that co-education was the best manner in which the sexes could be educated. Where boys and girls met together they were more apt to be better educated than where they were educated separately. He quoted an essay on co-education by an eminent author to bear out his opinion. He dwelt upon the system of higher education in Europe, especially in Berne and Vienna. The late Horace Mann expressed himself strongly on co-education. He was in favour of it. In the United States co-education had been a great success. There was no reason why women should not be educated under the same roof with men. Women were able to carry off the highest prizes in the Colleges in the United States, and he could not see why women should not be admitted to the Toronto University. As far as he was concerned he gave the matter his hearty co-operation.

Mr. HARCOURT explained that the subject was not entirely a new one, but one of peculiar interest. He knew two young ladies, undergraduates of Toronto University, who were asking admission to that University. He would commence by laying down a broad proposition. What was especially wanted in this Province was a system so broad and so complete with the public school for its base and the university for its crowning point, with every feature of that system open and available to all classes and both sexes. (Hear, hear.) The time of these "Rip-Van-Winkle" prejudices had passed, and women should be put on the same footing with men in respect to education. In the public and high schools they saw the boys and girls, young men and women, pursuing their studies side by side, in the same class-rooms, using the same text books, and having the same standard as to instruction and discipline, and in the main

this system was followed with the most gratifying results. The sexes were on the same footing in the Public School, and in the High School, but when the University was reached they found that one of the sexes was unfairly discriminated against. They were not only barred from the ordinary lectures of the University, but from the experimental lectures in science and in the medical department. Young men and young women were both attempting to reach the same goal, but still the young women were barred by men who liked to speak about British fair-play. (Hear, hear.) Ladies were useful as teachers in the Public Schools, but still the doors had not been opened to women in all the Educational Institutions. In the Province of Ontario there were nearly 1,000 more female than male teachers teaching in the Public Schools. The bulk of the teaching power rested with the females, still they were discriminated against with reference to higher education. When the Public School inspectors were appointed instead of the local superintendents the standard of teachers, certificates was greatly raised. They found that the female teachers were ready to conform to the standard. There were 336 High School teachers in the Province of Ontario, including Collegiate Institutes, and of that number there were but thirty-one females. This was not a reasonable proportion. More than one-half of the Public School teachers were females, and they all deemed that it was a good thing for the Province. This being so, why should female teachers not be put in such a position that they could reach a position in High Schools? It was simply because they had refused to allow the ladies equal facilities which they allowed men to go to the University College and equip themselves for holding positions as teachers in High Schools. His hon. friend from Hamilton had given a history of co-education in England. He (Mr. HARCOURT) gave a history of the movement in the United States, and showed the progress which woman had made in the colleges in that country. It being six o'clock the Speaker left the chair.

After recess,

The House went into Committee on Private Bills. The following were adopted:—

Bill respecting the trusts of the will of the late Samuel B. Smith, deceased.

Bill to legalize and confirm certain municipal by-laws granting aid to the Canada Southern Railway Company.

Bill to incorporate the village of Woodville.

Bill to amend the charter of incorporation of the Ontario Methodist Camp Ground Company.

Bill to consolidate the debt of the town of Palmerston.

Bill to revive and amend the Act incorporating the Port Stanley, Strathroy, & Port Franks Railway Company.

Bill to authorize the Corporation of the town of Strathroy to purchase certain lands therein for a public cemetery.

Bill to enable the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of the diocese of Toronto to sell certain lands.

Bill respecting the Yorkville Loop Line Railway Company.

Bill respecting the Gananoque & Rideau Railway Company.

SECOND READINGS.

The following bills were read a second time:—

Bill relating to the municipality of Neebing.

Bill to incorporate the town of Port Arthur.

Bill to incorporate the Niagara Falls Water-Works Company.

Bill respecting the Lake Simcoe Junction Railway Company.

Bill to amend the Act to transfer the securities of the Anglo-Canadian Mortgage Company to the Omnium Securities Company.

THE CO-EDUCATION DEBATE.

After recess.

Mr. HARCOURT continued his remarks in favour of co-education. The United States colleges exhibited many points which Ontario might adopt. In none of the colleges of the United States where co-education had been adopted had there been any departure from that system, and this fact alone was sufficient to prove the expediency of having University College open to women. He didn't believe that the health of women would suffer, and experience proved such was the case. In conclusion he hoped this one illiberal feature of excluding women from University College would be wiped out by the passage of the hon. gentleman's motion. (Applause.)

Mr. GIBSON (Huron) thought he would stand alone with reference to this question. He would like if the hon. gentleman had told them how many male Public School teachers were University graduates. He did not believe that one per cent. of them were graduates. He could not see why female teachers should want to go through this University under these circumstances. In this country the sexes were almost equal, and there was not the field for women here as in the old country. Would the University training make women better fitted for home life? He was afraid it would not. His hon. friend from Hamilton had told them that one woman in England had attained the high position of "eighth wrangler" in a University. At home it did not matter if she was the senior wrangler. (Laughter.) The dead languages had nothing to do with housekeeping. He was certain that this question had not received the consideration outside the city as in the city. It was something like coercion that they should force the President of the Uni-