

bring them together and afford them an opportunity of mutually stimulating one another in their efforts towards self-improvement. It is better also that such an institution should be a thing of spontaneous and natural upgrowth. It should have its day of small things and rise to magnitude and importance by gradual steps. Even in the case of the Melbourne College it may not tend to attract the sympathies of working men for a formidable building to be erected at a cost of £10,000 or £20,000, in which they will be invited to begin their studies on tessellated floors and beneath stained-glass windows. There should be an air of the practical and realistic in everything in which the working man is asked to take part. In the case of the Melbourne institution it is suggested that the classes be formed on the principle of allowing the students to choose their own subjects of study, and arranging that as soon as thirty or forty have given in their names as students in any branch of knowledge a teacher should be appointed to impart instruction in that branch. There can be no doubt, however, that there is some danger of the Melbourne people starting their institution on the tacit assumption that when the building has been erected their work is accomplished. There is in these colonies too great a tendency for money granted or given for educational purposes to be utilized simply in bricks and mortar; indeed, it is to be feared that to some extent this censure will apply to our own University. It would tend greatly to the advancement of education in this colony if that building could be converted for the evenings into a college for those engaged at work during the day, and devoted to the holding of classes in science and technology. In Melbourne it is believed to be impracticable to utilize in this manner the University buildings in the evening, on account of their distance from the centre of the city. In Adelaide no such objection can be urged. It is but a few steps from the busiest parts of the city to the University buildings, and evening classes held in them could be attended by students with the greatest convenience.

If it be found impossible to turn the University to account in this manner in the evenings on the ground of the objections which, as we have said, men who are engaged in daily labour entertain towards anything which looks like patronage or authoritative interference with the manner in which they choose to spend their spare time, it might be advisable to greatly extend the scope of the

classes at the Institute, so as to convert some room or rooms of that building into an evening college. A college of this description is almost as much needed in Adelaide as in Melbourne. Even Mr. Ormond's handsome gift of £5,000 does not much advance the real purpose which the promoters have in view, namely, the bringing together of working men, whether they be mechanics or clerks or storemen, for evening study. It is still just as possible for this to be done in Adelaide as it is in Melbourne, and we hope that some effectual steps will be taken towards imitating, or perhaps anticipating, the movement which has been started in the sister capital. After all, the organization of the essentials of a college is but a simple matter. A few intending students confer together, and invite others to join them. When the names have been given in, and the subjects which each wishes to study have been specified, application may be made to Government for the use of such building, or portion of a building, as may be convenient; and the contribution of a very small fee would secure the services of a specialist in each subject, who, to utilize one or two evenings in the week pleasantly to himself, would work more for the love of his favourite study than for the remuneration received. It would be somewhat remarkable also if after the affair had got to this stage some of our leading capitalists, who have not shown themselves one whit inferior to those of Melbourne in generosity, should not give monetary assistance towards a work of so much importance. It is not necessary that such an institution should take the rather misleading title of a Working Man's College. It would not be confined to the use of those who gain their living by manual labour, but could be taken advantage of by workers of all classes, the only condition being that they must have their evenings free. In the London Working Man's College it has been pointed out only 36 per cent. of the students are engaged in manual labour. The field for work amongst those who are really earnest in wishing to devote their evening to self-improvement is very wide, and should not be restricted in any way by artificial distinctions. There are many signs which indicate that in this city of Adelaide numbers of young men most enthusiastically devote their spare time to studies, their taste for which does them credit. But in many cases it is to be feared their efforts are misdirected. They use obsolete text-books, study odd corners of their subjects instead of getting a compre-