

emphasis on the life and work of students.

On 30 June 1881, Prince Leopold officially opened the University College building on Shakespeare Street, Nottingham. The new College had a staff of four professors, six lecturers and 12 teachers. Students could enrol from the age of 14. At a time when free elementary education ended at 11 the aim of the Victorian founders was to provide the people of Nottingham with access to a university education.

Hundreds of students passed through its doors, perhaps most famously the author D.H. Lawrence — who submitted a poem to the student newspaper which was turned down!

Drawing on manuscript sources, printed materials and artefacts, the majority from The University of Nottingham's collections, the exhibition highlights aspects of the University's development since those early days, including the move out of the city, the addition of new disciplines and departments, the astonishing growth in student numbers, and the more recent expansion into Asia.

The displays draw attention to various aspects of the University's life, with an emphasis on what it was like to be a student at different times in the past.

The exhibition has been jointly curated by John Beckett, Professor of English Regional History, Dr Andrew Souter of the School of Humanities, and Manuscripts and Special Collections at The University of Nottingham.

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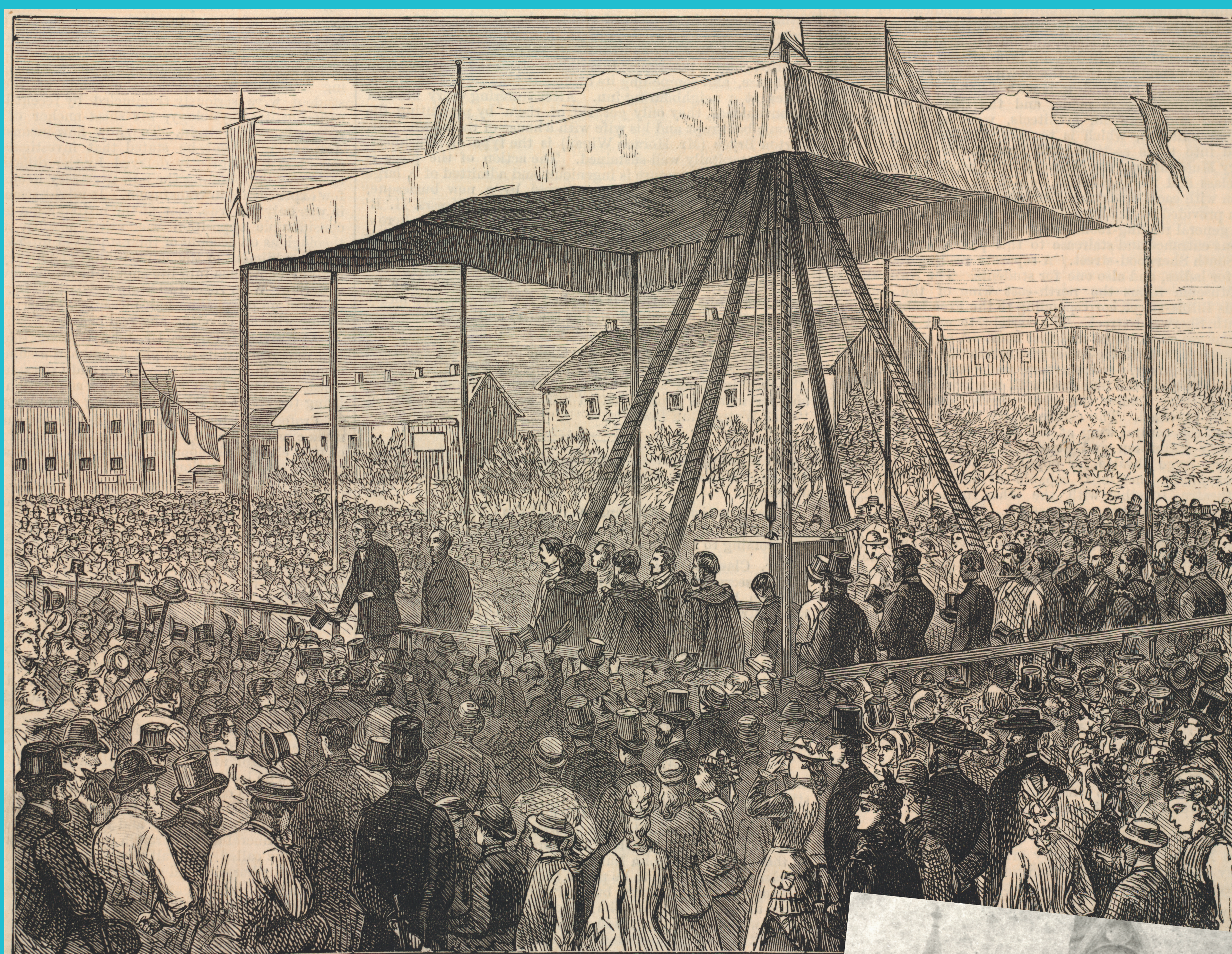
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# A History of THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM



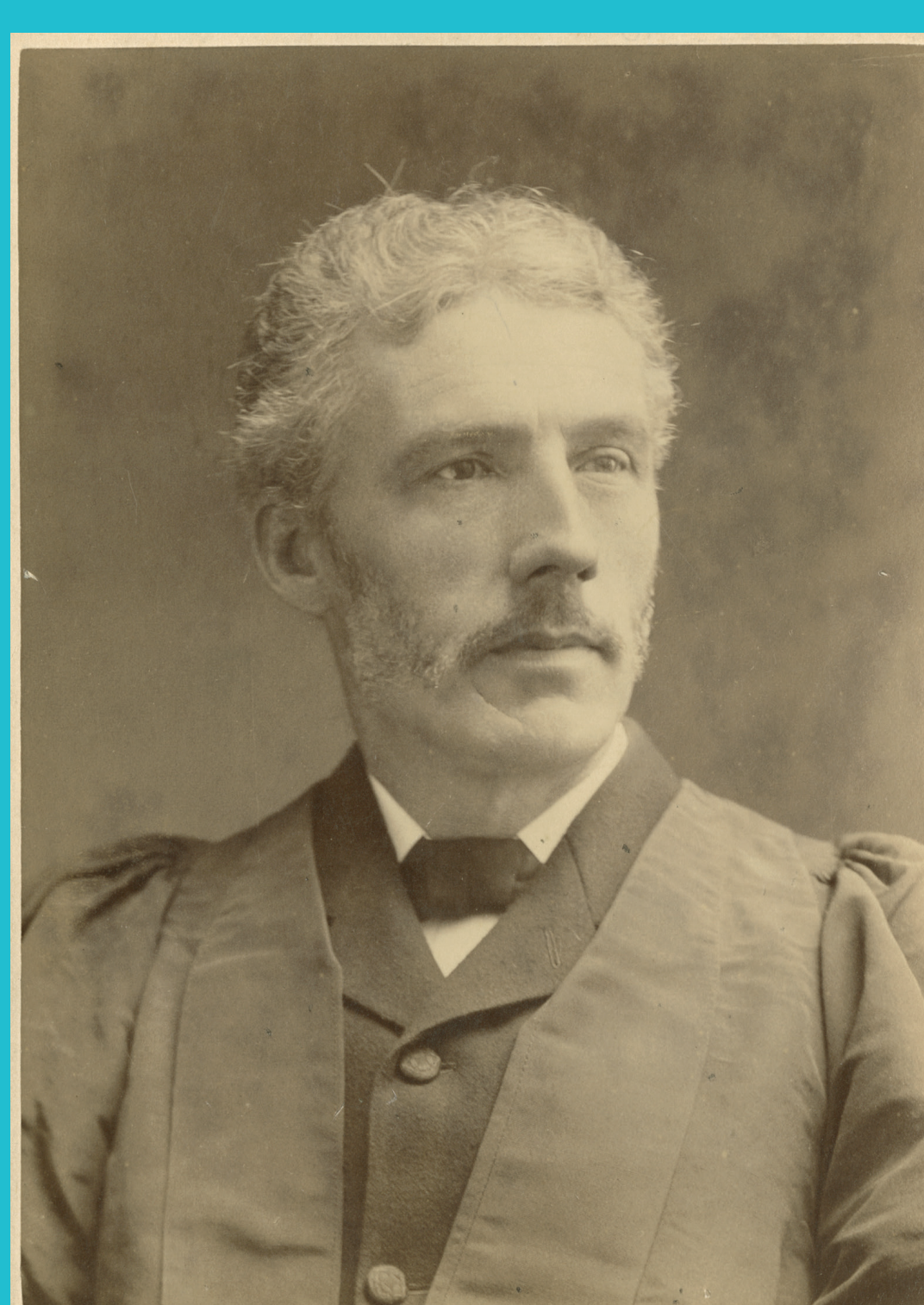
Laying of the foundation stone, University College, 27 September 1877. This stylised picture from the *Illustrated London News* depicts Warren Bowers, Mayor of Nottingham, laying the stone. The Liberal politician W.E. Gladstone made a long speech on the occasion. From *Illustrated London News*, 6 October 1877, East Midlands Special Collection

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The official opening of University College  
on Shakespeare Street by H.R.H. Prince  
Leopold, Duke of Albany, K.G., on  
30 June 1881. From University  
Collection, UR 1396



Staff and students outside University College, c.1907. J.E. Symes, the College principal, is in the middle of the second row. D.H. Lawrence is on the right side of the second row from the back. From D.H. Lawrence Collection, La Phot 1/4



Frank Clowes, one of the four founding professors (Chemistry), was also the first principal of the college, 1887-90. From University Collection. UR 1382/1