

tution were not only prepared for their work, but, as I shall presently show, were successfully employed, after proper training, in advancing the educational interests of the Province.

The educational wants of Lower Canada, which had induced the Parent Society to establish a Normal School, had, it is needless to say, attracted the attention of many thinking men, who were anxious that Government should lend its powerful aid in establishing institutions which should carry out their work on a scale calculated to meet the future wants of the whole Province of Lower Canada. The exertions of these friends of education, and the fortunate appointment at the time when these efforts were made of a gentleman to superintend the educational affairs of the Province, who was qualified in an eminent degree for the important office, led to the establishment of those training institutions, which are at present in active operation. Of these the McGill Normal School was the one which was set on foot under the sanction and with the aid of Government for the training of teachers for all the Protestant denominations of the Province. I cannot do better, to show its design and constitution, than to give the following extract from its prospectus, issued at the time of its inauguration :—

“The McGill Normal School is chiefly designed to train effective teachers for the Protestant population of Lower Canada. It is a Provincial Institution, under the control of the Government and the Superintendent of Schools. Its connection with McGill College consists in the Superintendent of Education having associated with him, for its management, the governing body of that University, which will enable pupil teachers to derive such benefits from the University as its large means of education allow it to offer.”

The establishment of this Institution, at the time when the Normal School of the Colonial Church and School Society had already been at work nearly three years, led to those arrangements which ultimately resulted in the transfer of the work of training teachers from the one school to the other. In this change there can be no doubt the Society consulted the benefit of the country at large, and the best interests of education. The Society had already done that which the Province so manifestly needed, at a time when there was no one else to do it. When its place was to be occupied by those with ampler means, no obstacles were placed in the way of an arrangement which was considered necessary for the benefit of a Government Institution, although by so doing the Society was deprived of a most important part of its labours.

It should also be observed that this arrangement was made at the moment when success had crowned all that had been attempted, and when there were just grounds for concluding that the interest of friends, and the influence of the clergy, would at all times provide a fair number of students to be trained for the Society's own peculiar work in the Province.

The motives which led to this determination will be best seen in the following remarks made by his Lordship the Bishop of Montreal at the opening of the McGill Normal School. He said, addressing the chairman of the meeting, the Hon. Dr. Chauveau, the Superintendent of Education for Lower Canada :—

“I, and those who act with me, will endeavour, as far as any small portion of the task may depend upon us, in all good faith, to work out for the benefit of this Lower Province, the objects of this Institution. You, sir, and the other gentlemen who have been interested in forming