

tutions, because I believe it to be impracticable, and to carry within itself the seeds of its own dissolution. It is surely no proof of enmity if we invite them to one common institution, and place them upon a level with ourselves. We claim no superiority over them—we are content to be their equals. If then, this central institution be decided upon, let it be the duty of its Governors to select from among the able men who now conduct the different institutions—Dr. McCawley, the Rev. Mr. Stevenson, the Rev. Mr. Crawley, the Rev. Mr. Pryor, or the Rev. Mr. O'Brien—those who are fit for the new Chairs which it is intended to found. Pay a respect thus, as far as practicable to what is called the doctrine of “vested rights ;” and if, after these selections, the different sects have the energy and spirit to support these Academies for sectarian purposes, let us say to them, “God speed !”—we shall offer you no opposition to the course you mean to pursue.

The denominational system is not sound in itself—it is against the spirit of the age—it is decidedly against the spirit and the feelings of the people of Nova Scotia. Think you that King's College would not now have occupied a far higher position if its honors had in early times been less exclusive and its portals open to all sects. Its governors have freed it of some of its ancient tests. To obtain a degree it is no longer necessary to subscribe to the thirty nine articles. All this, Sir, shows the advance of free principles, and their yielding to the tendency of the times. Pictou Academy, an institution which it becomes me to speak of with respect, perished and became comparatively a wreck, because it clung too long to the domination of one sect. And, Sir, with what incomparable zeal, and energy, and talent, was it supported ! The attachment of the late Dr. McCulloch, the principal of Dalhousie College, whom we but lately followed to his grave,—for Collegiate and liberal education, is above any humble eulogy I now could offer. In his hand, it was open to all, like the treasures of the gospel, “without money and without price.” No young man, who had ambition and taste to improve his mind, ever came to him and was rejected.